



NEWS / A5

Rocker is first
'Pinoy Dream
Academy' winner

INFOTECH / B6

RP's best
Web designers
win awards



ENTERTAINMENT / H1

Emme Tomimbang:
Hawaii's answer
to Oprah Winfrey

WORLD / A28

Time magazine unveils
its 'Person of the Year'
for 2006—It's You

Militant youth leader shot dead in Cagayan

By Blanche S. Rivera

CAGAYAN HAS BECOME A VALLEY OF DEATH for militant leaders as the toll of lives from political violence rose with the killing of a 19-year-old youth leader in Rizal, Cagayan.

Sangguniang Kabataan chair Nelson Asocena, a member of the youth group Anakbayan and the peasant group Kagimungan, was shot dead

MILITANT/A10



Monday, December 18, 2006

★★

7 sections / Vol. 22 / No. 10 P18

website: inquirer.net

NGO's waterless toilets for export to Bulgaria

By Blanche S. Rivera

CERAMIC TOILET BOWLS customized for ecological sanitation (Ecosan), a new sustainable sanitation approach designed to use human waste as a resource in the food chain, will soon

NGO'S/A11



Bishops push own Cha-cha

'Character change more important than Charter change'

By Christian V. Esguerra

AVOIDING FIERY RHETORIC at the prayer rally, Catholic Church leaders yesterday said that what the country needed was a different kind of Cha-cha—not Charter change but character change.

But organizers of the rally held at Manila's Quirino Grandstand made one thing clear: They were not letting their guard down and would remain vigilant to any self-serving effort to amend the Constitution.

Despite the organizers' claims that they could muster up to a half-million people for the rally, only a small number showed up, estimated by police and INQUIRER reporters at anywhere between 15,000 and 30,000.

Church organizers said 50,000 people came. They represented various religious congregations, civil society and cause-oriented groups and the academe, and also included political figures, among them former President Corazon Aquino and several senators critical of President Macapagal-Arroyo.

Aquino told reporters the rally should remind all "that nobody is above the law."

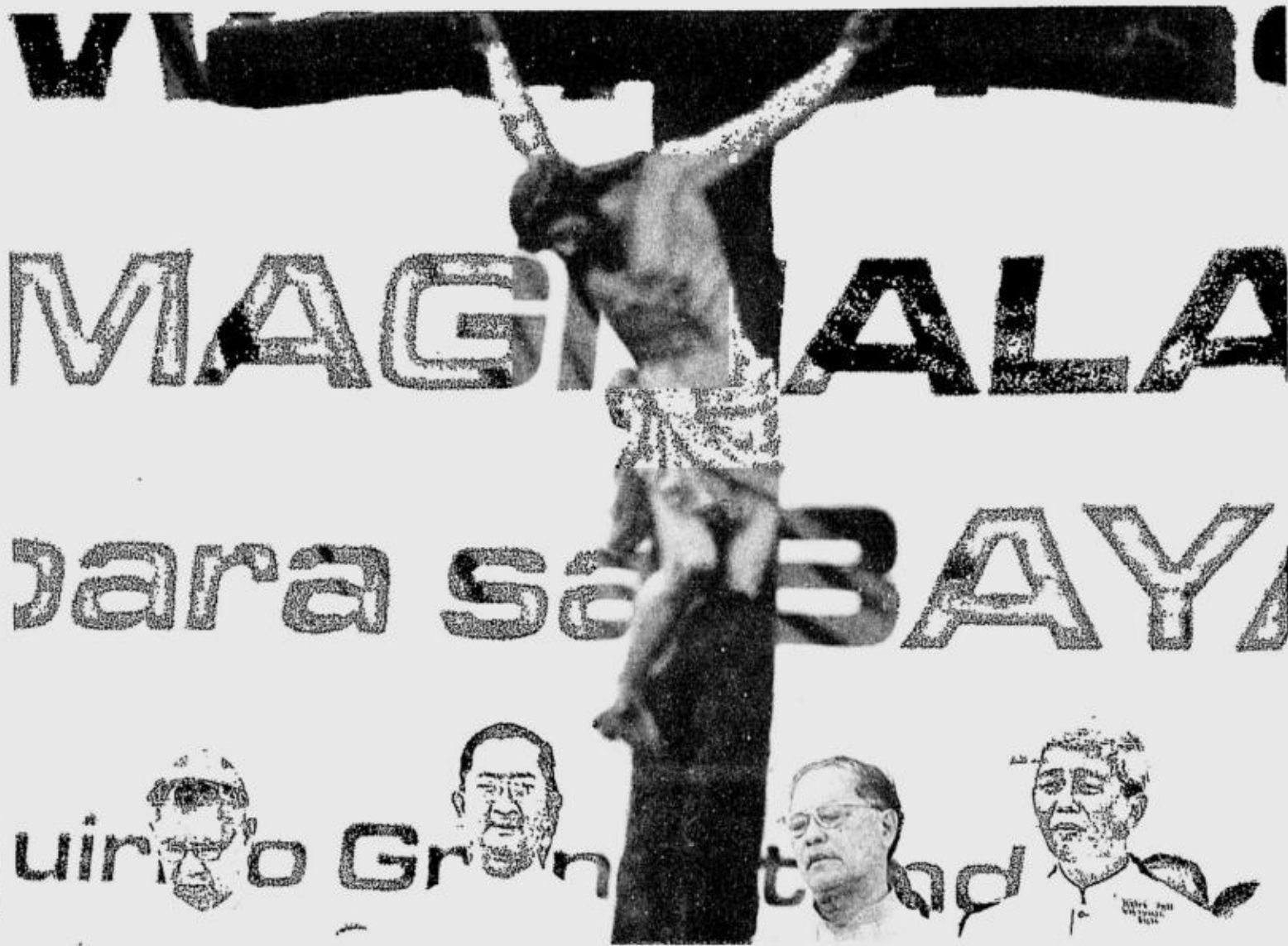
"We should realize that we should always look out for the best interest of the people. Leaders should serve the people," said Aquino, who had called on Ms Arroyo to step down following allegations of her involvement in electoral fraud in 2004.

Rallies were also held yesterday in different provinces in Southern Tagalog and in Cebu.

"We are not asleep," academican Dr. Judith Aldaba, a nonpartisan representative tapped to explain the reasons for the rally, told the Luneta crowd, amid applause.

"We are watching every wrong move of our leaders and the representatives in government," Aldaba said in Filipino.

BISHOPS/A12



ARCHBISHOP Angel Lagdameo (left), president of the influential Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines, leads a prayer rally of thanksgiving after the administration dropped its plans to amend the Constitution.

PHOTOS BY EDWIN BACASMAS



AMONG the thousands of people who gathered at the Luneta for the Church-led rally were former President Corazon Aquino and Senators Franklin Drilon and Jambay Madrigal.

A rally with no banners, streamers

By Fe Zamora and Leila B. Salaverria

REGARDLESS OF THEIR POLITICAL beliefs, everyone melted into the streamerless, bannerless crowd yesterday.

In a rally at the Luneta billed as "Watch and Pray," some of the country's most influential personalities in politics and business joined nuns, priests, students, professionals and ordinary folk in prayer.

Students from St. Scholastica's College came in their school uniforms, while followers of Bro. Mike Velarde's El Shaddai stood out in their white head scarves.

Politicians and business executives who were on opposite sides during Edsa and "people power" revolts were reunited yesterday in their opposition to administration attempts to tinker with the Constitution.

But the gathering had none of the florid rhetoric of past antigovernment rallies, in line with an appeal from Church organizers.

Also making their presence felt were some members of the "Hyatt 10" Group of Cabinet members who had resigned their posts at the height of the "Hello Garci" tape scandal involving allegations that President Macapagal-Arroyo had cheated in the 2004 polls.

Members of the group present included former Social Welfare Secretary Dinky Soliman and former Education Secretary Butch Abad. Black and White Movement convenors Leah Navarro and Vicente Romano Jr. also came.

From the Makati Business Club came Ramon del Rosario Jr. and Roberto Romulo, among other people.

Also around were the members of the family of the late human rights fighter and former Sen.

A RALLY/A12

GMA vows capture of killers of Abra lawmaker

By Christine O. Avendaño

PRESIDENT MACAPAGAL-ARROYO YESTERDAY condemned the killing of her ally, Abra Rep. Luis Bersamin Jr., and vowed to see his killers captured.

"The Philippine National Police shall bring the perpetrators, mastermind and all, to justice," the President said in a statement. "Such

deplorable acts do not have a place in a democratic polity and I will ensure that the long arm of the law will catch up with those who committed this dastardly act."

Extending her "deepest" condolences to Bersamin's family, Ms Arroyo said the congressman was a "sincere friend and ally for good governance and public service."

GMA VOWS/A17

Solon had planned to run for gov

By Artha Kira Paredes
Inquirer Northern Luzon

SLAIN ABRA REP LUIS "CHITO" Bersamin Jr. had been called many names for playing it safe when it came to political affairs.

He would rather talk things over to resolve critical issues.

"He was just nonconfrontational. It was his weakness. To him, all things could be resolved amicably," said a former Abra po-

SOLON/A17

Church must air new issues to the people

By Amando Doronila

DESPITE THEIR DISCLAIMER THAT the prayer rally they called at the Luneta yesterday was a nonpolitical event, the Catholic bishops had an eye on the crowd turnout.

On the eve of the rally, Msgr. Pedro Quitorio, spokesperson of

the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines, revealed his concern over the turnout when he said "we are expecting about half a million or thereabouts."

At 3 p.m., after the Mass, Jaro Archbishop Angel Lagdameo, CBCP president, said, "This is unexpected. I did not expect the response would be this big."

But estimates of the crowd by independent observers ranged from 15,000 to 30,000—far from the massive half a million expected by Quitorio.

By Luneta rally standards, a turnout of fewer than 100,000 is not massive and a poor conveyor of the political impact of

CHURCH/A10

Politics hounds Catanduanes relief aid

By Fernan Gianan
Inquirer Southern Luzon

A FALLEN coconut tree pierced by a piece of wood flung by Supertyphoon "Reming" serves as a grim reminder of the deadly disaster in Catanduanes.

FERNAN GIANAN/INQUIRER SOUTHERN LUZON

VIRAC, CATANDUANES—RESIDENTS of this typhoon-ravaged capital town trooped to the main highway for a glimpse of President Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday afternoon but were disappointed because she decided to meet with warring local officials on neutral ground—the home of Bishop Manolo de los Santos in Fiat Village.

Ms Arroyo, Vice President Noli de Castro and Budget Secretary Rolando Andaya Jr. were supposed to join a motorcade to the provincial capitol and then to Fiat Village, with a side trip to the hard-hit barangays of San Vicente and

Palnab, according to sources familiar with the arrangements for the brief visit.

But much of the itinerary was scrapped when the Presidential Management Staff decided not to add to the political rivalry between Gov. Leandro B. Verceles Jr. and Rep. Joseph A. Santiago.

The rivalry led to reports that three of the five most-affected towns were not given relief goods by the Provincial Disaster Coordinating Council.

Arriving on two jets, Ms Arroyo and company closeted themselves with De los Santos, Verceles, Santiago and 11 municipal mayors in what was described as a free-wheeling discussion of the province's situation in the wake of the

POLITICS/A8



WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Eastern Luzon will have cloudy skies with scattered rain showers becoming widespread rains over the Bicol region. Visayas and Eastern Mindanao will be cloudy with scattered rain showers and thunderstorms while the rest of the country will have mostly cloudy skies with scattered rain showers and thunderstorms.

COMPILED BY KATE PEDROSO, INQUIRER RESEARCH/12/17/06 SOURCE: PAGASA

E-mail: pr_news@inquirer.com.ph

Second FRONT PAGE

Text us your feedbacks: inquirer news name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Metro Manila	Cloudy with Rains	Iloilo/Bacolod	Cloudy with Rains
Bogus	Cloudy with Rains	Roxas	Cloudy with Rains
Tuguegarao	Cloudy with Rains	Cebu	Cloudy with Rains
Laos	Cloudy with Rains	Tacloban	Cloudy with Rains
Clerk Zone	Cloudy with Rains	Gen. Santos	Cloudy with Rains
Tagaytay	Cloudy with Rains	Zamboanga	Cloudy with Rains
Legazpi	Cloudy with Rains	Cagayan de Oro	Cloudy with Rains
Calapan	Cloudy with Rains	Davao	Cloudy with Rains

Palace defends Asean postponement

By Nikko Dizon

PRESIDENT MACAPAGAL-ARROYO KNEW HER government would be heavily criticized whether or not the 12th Asean Summit was postponed because of inclement weather, an official of the organizing committee said yesterday.

"She risked this kind of criticism in making her decision. Either way, I don't think she would have gotten universal approval for whatever decision she made," Victoriano Lecaros, summit spokesperson, said.

The INQUIRER sought Lecaros' reaction to a scathing column published yesterday in The Nation, one of Thailand's English dailies.

Titled "Asean caves in to the bad guys," columnist Thang D. Nguyen said a reported terrorist threat and a political maelstrom in Manila were the real reasons for the summit postponement.

"[The] typhoon never came. Over the weekend, there were only rains and strong winds in the area," Nguyen wrote.

The columnist said Asean had "lost face over the Cebu non-summit" and called the postponement, a "debacle [that] has caused considerable damage to the image of the Asean as an organization."

Nguyen wrote: "For one thing, it reflects poorly on the leader-

ship of the Philippines as the host of the summit. Even if the typhoon was the real reason they shut it down, blaming it on the weather is just lame. Besides, if the weather in Cebu was a problem, why not move the summit to another city?"

He added: "The non-event this year also shows that current Asean leaders are not as strong as their predecessors. Indeed, by backing down this year, Asean has shown that it will cave in to terrorism. This is ironic because one of Asean's projects is tighter cooperation among its 10 leaders to fight terrorism."

Typhoon forecast

The Asean Summit and the 2nd East Asia Summit should have been held on Dec. 10-14 but were postponed because of a forecasted typhoon.

Speculations arose that the deferment was actually because of a terror threat, with the United States, the United Kingdom, Australia and Japan issuing travel advisories to their citizens, discour-



MS ARROYO

aging them from going to Cebu during the summit.

A political storm was also brewing in Manila after various sectors condemned Ms Arroyo's allies in the House of Representatives for attempts to railroad Constitutional changes through a Constituent assembly.

Natural to cast doubts

Lecaros said it was "understandable" for people who "were not in the room with the organizing committee, [who did not see] the weather maps, and [did not talk] to the weather bureau" to cast doubts on the real

reason behind the summit's deferment.

"It was a case of choosing how we wanted to be criticized: For being irresponsible or for being weak?" he said.

Lecaros, who is also the country's ambassador to Malaysia, stressed that the organizing committee wanted to ensure the safety of the leaders who were scheduled to arrive on the day Typhoon "Seniang" was expected to hit northern Cebu.

"We have to hand it to the President. She knew the kind of reaction [the decision to postpone the summit] would elicit. Still, she took the recommendation of the organizing committee," he said.

Attendance confirmed

Calling the wave of criticisms over the summit postponement a "distraction," Lecaros said they would rather concentrate on preparing for the summit, which had been rescheduled to January 11-13.

Several Asean leaders have already confirmed their attendance. The INQUIRER reported on Saturday that Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe had confirmed his attendance.

"The only [way to] answer these criticisms is to have a successful summit in three weeks' time," Lecaros said.

What really caused summit reschedule? Theories abound

THE GOVERNMENT'S DECISION to call off this year's Asean Summit was prompted by a "perfect storm" of vague terror threats and efforts to save face, according to security analysts.

"I do not think there was any specific information of terrorist plotting prior to the summit—only the usual vagaries," regional security analyst Scott Harrison said.

Harrison, however, did not rule out the possibility that telecommunications intercepts by security agencies may have triggered the domino effect of travel warnings issued by western governments and Japan on threats to the summit.

"The Philippine Government, as usual, issued conflicting terrorism stories that only added to the potential uncertainty and everyone—including the Philippines and the foreign summit participants—found it convenient to hide behind the typhoon prospect to back away from the summit," he said.

"It was the perfect storm of vague terrorism uncertainties and face-saving that drove the cancellation," added Harrison, formerly the Central Intelligence Agency's (CIA) station chief in Manila and now the managing director of Pacific Strategies and Assessments.

Meanwhile, John Harrison, head of terrorism research at the Institute of Defense and Strategic Studies in Singapore, said: "We live in a world where any major international gathering is going to be a potential terrorist target."

"I have not heard anything specific relating to the Asean summit. But rumors were flying around. It is quite possible the Abu Sayyaf may have been planning something to embarrass the government," he said. "As a group it has been very quiet and an attack on a soft target such as a resort would be something to let the authorities know it hasn't gone away." AFP

XTREME MAGIC SING

0% Interest

Installment Knock Out

Silver Ver. 9

P 745.84 / 12 mos.

Duet Mic
P 825.00 / 6 mos.All Song Chips
P 575.00 / 6 mos.

Promo Period: Oct. 17 - Dec. 31, 2006
For DTI-NCR Permit No. 4094, Series of 2006.

XTREME Magic Sing products available nationwide!

PARTICIPATING DEALERS

PARTICIPATING CREDIT CARDS: BDO • CITIBANK • *BANKARD • BPI • DINERS • EQUITABLE • METROBANK • AIG • HSBC • STANDARD CHARTERED

For wholesale and dealership inquiries, contact us at:

The ASTRA Group, Inc.

G/F Richbelt Tower, 17 Annapolis St., Greenhills, San Juan, Metro Manila
Tel: 72-MAGIC, 726-9999, 726-2443, 726-2449 www.magicssing.com.ph

MANUFACTURED IN KOREA BY:
ET ENTER TECH
ENTER TECH CO. LTD.

Assassins getting bolder, asserts one near-victim

By Edson C. Tandoc Jr.

THE LONG LIST OF UNSOLVED HIGH-PROFILE killings could be encouraging assassins to be more daring, said a congressman who survived last week what he believed was an ambush try on his life.

"People who have tried and succeeded in attacking and killing high ranking officials no longer have fear because of the lapses of government authorities (tasked to go after them)," Pasig City Rep. Dodot Jaworski told the INQUIRER yesterday.

Four days after Jaworski survived the bombing of his silver Toyota Innova in Pasig City, two gunmen shot dead Abra Rep. Luis Bersamin Jr. in Quezon City on Saturday.

No suspects yet

Police have not yet identified any suspects in Tuesday's slay attempt on Jaworski. But investigators have established that the blast was caused by an improvised explosive device.

"The crime lab is still checking on the residues swabbed from the chassis of the Innova, which appear to be cyclonite or RDX powder (a substance found in high velocity explosives)," Eastern Police District director Chief Supt. Luizo Ticman told the INQUIRER.

Jaworski said the situation remained "not normal" and what happened had affected his daily routine. "I have to take extra precautions," he said.

Jaworski, his brother Ryan and his security, escort Romy Gamosa had just come from a wake in Barangay Pineda in Pasig on Tuesday afternoon when they heard a bang and saw smoke seeping out of the van.

They managed to get out of the vehicle before it blew up.

Drug lords or plans

Jaworski suspected the bombing of his car was related to his statements against drug lords in the city or his political plans.

"We have given the police all the information they need. We are awaiting their report. It would be unfair for me to accuse anybody," the congressman, son of basketball legend, and former Senator Robert "Sonny" Jaworski, added.

The only thing he is sure of now: The explosion did not shake his intention to run for mayor next year.

'Fortified my stand'

"(The bombing) even fortified my stand. There is really a need for change and reforms in the city," he said. He is expected to face incumbent Mayor Vicente Eusebio's son Bobby in the election.

Eusebio has denied insinuations his camp was behind the attack and even hinted that what happened could have been just a political gimmick.

On April 13, 2005, a gunman shot dead former Pasig City Rep. Henry Lanot while the latter was eating lunch inside a restaurant. Lanot ran against but lost to Eusebio in 2004. The assassination remains unsolved to this day.

Cha-cha plotters better watch out in next elections, warn senators

By TJ Burgonio

ADMINISTRATION congressmen who scrambled to railroad Charter change through a Senate-less constituent assembly (Con-ass) but failed would have to deal with a public backlash in the May 2007 elections, senators said yesterday.

The administration lawmakers' move to rewrite the Constitution—highlighted by the ditching of House rules to short-cut the process of amendment in a televised marathon proceeding—would be a key factor when they seek reelection or higher public office, the senators said.

"Certainly, it will be a key factor," Sen. Franklin Drilon, who had been vocal in his opposition against the Charter change express, said in an interview. "It will be an issue; the people will remember how the administration tried to railroad Cha-cha amendments."

Sen. Richard Gordon said: "In the urban areas, they will have to explain themselves. It's going to be an issue against them."

The issue "would resonate" in rural areas, where "TV images of congressmen have made an impression on rural folks, even if they don't understand the Constitution that deeply," added Gordon, who chairs the committee on constitutional amendments.

After getting President Macapagal-Arroyo's fresh approval, House Speaker Jose de Venecia and administration lawmakers on Dec. 5 amended House Rule No. 5 that provided bicameral approval of any resolution proposing amendments to the Charter.

Two days later, the House majority approved Resolution No. 167 convening Congress into a Con-ass to approve shift to a parliamentary unicameral government, further sparking outrage and prompting Catholic bishops, civil society groups and the public to mount yesterday's prayer rally. (See stories on Page A1).

In the end, De Venecia and his allies dropped Con-ass as a mode to amend the Charter and expressed preference for a constitutional convention (Con-con) to be approved by both chambers.

Sen. Edgardo Angara, however, doubted that public outrage over the administration lawmakers' attempt to fast-track constitutional amendments would spill over into next year's midterm elections.

"The main proponents are territorial representatives. Many of them are holding safe seats and a national issue may have a marginal impact on their election or reelection," he said.

If at all, the issue of Charter change would make an impact on politicians running for higher public office, like the Senate, Angara said.

Under a unicameral system, the 24-member Senate will be abolished.

Angara contended that Charter change, the amendments and the mode of amendments should be on the agenda of campaigns and debates in the runup to next year's elections if only to raise public awareness on the issue.

"Only about 25 percent of our population knows that we have a Constitution. And the awareness of which provision should be changed is

even lower," he said.

After tangling with congressmen on the unconstitutionality of their Con-ass version, the senators had indicated that they would only agree to convene a Con-con after the 2007 elections.



KWON PAINTS TOWN RED AND BLUE
Kwon Sang Woo (top) of the hit Korean novela "Stairway to Heaven" poses with Filipino children during his visit yesterday to the Gawad Kalinga site at Baseco, Tondo. Kwon is the celebrity endorser for The Faceshop, which donated five houses to Gawad Kalinga, which helps thousands of poor Filipinos own their own homes. The Korean star, who helped paint the houses red and blue, will be in town until Tuesday. JESS YUSON

No truce in Bicol, says commander

CAMP SIMEON OLA, Legazpi City—The military in the Bicol region has not declared a ceasefire despite the declaration of a unilateral ceasefire by the communist-led National Democratic Front (NDF) in areas ravaged by Supertyphoon "Reming."

Brig. Gen. Arsenio Arugay, commanding officer of the 9th Infantry Division, said the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), as a matter of principle of the war against terrorism, did not subscribe to a ceasefire.

He explained that the government could only declare a suspension of military operations (Somo), but never a ceasefire, as the situation may dictate.

Arugay also said that only the President, being the commander in chief of the AFP, could declare a Somo or a ceasefire.

He said a Somo was

limited in duration and area coverage while a ceasefire involved the entire military in the whole country.

Arugay dismissed the NDF's unilateral declaration of a ceasefire "as a propaganda ploy aimed at projecting a humanitarian face and hiding the communists' inability to help the victims of disaster."

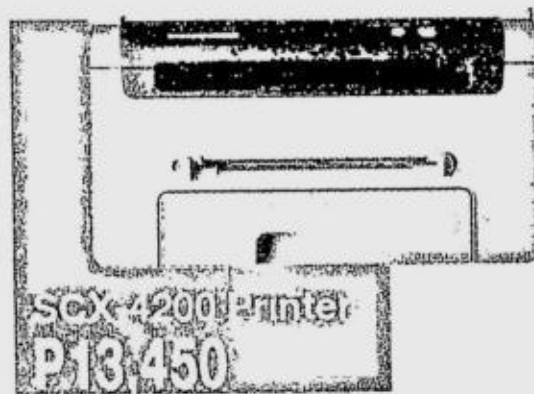
The NDF has declared a unilateral ceasefire in calamity areas in Bicol, saying the move was aimed at facilitating the delivery of assistance and relief efforts in the areas hardest hit by "Reming," which killed hundreds of persons and destroyed tens of thousands of houses and infrastructure facilities.

The general said they would pursue the fight against the rebels until their social infrastructure and forces were decimated. **Juan Escandor Jr. Inquirer Southern Luzon**



SCX-4521F Printer** P18,995

- Copy • Scan • Print • Fax
- Up to 20 ppm
- 4800 dpi enhanced color scanning
- 33.6 Kbps fax modem, 3-second transmission
- USB 1.1 (Compatible with USB 2.0)
- Advanced digital edit features:
(ID Copy, Auto-fit, Clone, Poster, Collation)



- Copy • Scan • Print
- Up to 19 ppm
- Up to 600 dpi effective output resolution
- Advanced digital edit features:
(ID Copy, 2-up, Auto-fit, Clone, Poster)
- Compatible with Windows, Macintosh, Linux
- 250 sheet cassette tray



Per DTI-MCR Permit No. 4622 Series of 2006.
*For Metro Manila Only.

**Get a FREE C130 Mobile Phone for every purchase of a Samsung SCX-4521 Multifunction Printer.



- Copy • Scan • Print
- Up to 15 ppm
- Economical 40% toner save functions
- USB 1.1 (Compatible with USB 2.0)
- Advanced digital edit features:
(ID Copy, 2-up, Auto-fit, Clone, Poster)
- 250 sheet cassette tray

DVD-P260K

Per DTI-MCR Permit No. 2124 Series of 2006.
*Nationwide

*Get a FREE DVD player for every purchase of a Samsung SCX-4200 Multifunction Printer.

Samsung Customer Contact Center: TOLL FREE 1-800-10SAMSUNG for PLDT or 1-800-3SAMSUNG for Digital.



Metro Manila Dealers:

• Accent Micro Products • Complink • Electroworld • Infoworx • NT Computer • PC Chain • PC Live • Silicon Valley • Villman

Provincial Dealers

• Accent Micro Products-Cebu • Bitstop • Dagupan • Columbia Computer • Davao • Concept Computer • Iloilo • Electroworld-Cebu • Electro • Data Computer Systems • Tacloban • Emeon • Davao • Gaisano Interpace • Cagayan de Oro • Thinking Tools • Cebu • Silicon Valley • Cebu • X-Computer • Cebu

*Only available at Complink, Silicon Valley, Villman, Concept Computer and Gaisano Interpace.

We won't abandon convicted Marine, group vows

By Terra V. Quismundo

DESPITE THEIR MEAGER NUMBERS, SUPPORTERS of the United States Marine jailed for rape will start nightly vigils at the Makati city jail tonight, an activity they vowed to keep up until the Marine was returned to US custody.

Grace Santos, head of the group "Supporters of Daniel Smith," said yesterday the organization would begin tonight candle-

lighting and prayer rites for the 21-year-old Marine lance corporal who has been held at the Makati city jail since Dec. 4 after he was convicted by a Makati court of rape.

"If he will still be at the city jail... We're gonna shuffle people so that it will be continuous... We will light candles and pray the rosary," said Santos yesterday.

The support group for Smith, composed of wives of US servicemen, expatriates and Filipinos who admire the Marine corporal, is still finalizing details but Santos said they were aiming to hold two-hour vigils for Smith every night, with at least 10 people attending at a time.

"I think it will give him hope... We just want him to know that people love him and believe him. We trust him," said Santos, 34, who has been bringing gifts, food and letters to Smith since the day he was locked up in Makati.

Invoking the RP-US Visiting Forces Agreement, Smith is fighting to be remanded to US custody while the appeal of his case is heard by the Court of Appeals.

Makati Judge Benjamin Pozon, the same judge who found Smith guilty of rape, upheld his earlier decision committing Smith to the MCJ.

Smith has appealed to the Court of Appeals. He faces a jail term of up to 40 years for the "bestial" act of raping



SMITH

a drunk "Nicole" in the back seat of a van at the Subic Bay Freeport on the night of Nov. 1, 2005.

Santos said their group would con-

tinue to support Smith even if he had to remain at the city jail over Christmas.

"We will have our Christmas party outside the jail... But if he's gonna go back to the [US] embassy, then we're gonna have our party outside the embassy," she said.

For the women who support the victim, Nicole, however, such a show of support for Smith was not unexpected.

"We are not surprised about that because their point of view is still that of the Americans. They have the resources, too, being the wives of US military men," said Emmi de Jesus, secretary general of the women's group Gabriela.

Santos had said in a previous interview: "I am not doing this because I am married to a US serviceman. I am doing this because I know what justice is."

But for De Jesus, Nicole represented "the real voice" of Filipino women in the rape case.

"If you are a Filipino and you are patriotic, you should be on the side of a compatriot who was raped," De Jesus said.

BLUESKYFARES

Flexi

GREAT FARES AVAILABLE NOW

One Way Fares

Bandar Seri Begawan

Kota Kinabalu

from **USD99***

from **USD109***

Singapore | Kuala Lumpur | Bangkok

from **USD119***

Round Trip Fares

Bandar Seri Begawan

Kota Kinabalu

from **USD169***

from **USD179***

Singapore | Kuala Lumpur | Bangkok

from **USD189***

*Price excludes taxes and fuel surcharge. * Mileage accrual for selected booking class. *Terms and conditions apply

www.brunelair.com/philippines

ROYAL BRUNEI

Robbers kill 2 in Lucena

LUCENA CITY—TWO PERSONS were killed when bonnet-wearing men robbed the house of a retired dentist in a subdivision located at the outskirts of this city late Saturday evening, a police report said.

The report identified the victims as Dr. Dionisio Tan, 64, of Puerto del Mar subdivision in Barangay Isabang, and Joselito Arceo, 26, a driver at the Toyota dealership in Dasmariñas, Cavite.

Investigation showed that at about 9:30 p.m., as Arceo was demonstrating the new Toyota Avanza he had just sold to Tan, four men armed with .45-cal. and 9mm pistols entered the gate and shot Arceo twice.

Tan resisted and fought the suspects but was also shot by the robbers.

He suffered a total of 10 gunshot wounds in different parts of the body and likewise died on the spot.

According to Arceo's two companions, brothers Mark and John Jeffrey Masibay, after the shooting, the suspects herded them into the house together with Tan's wife, a 10-year-old granddaughter and a househelp.

"They did not stay long. They did not even fully ransack the house of its valuables. It was all over in just five minutes," John Jeffrey told the INQUIRER. Delfin T. Mallari Jr., Inquirer Southern Luzon

Correction

IN THE DEC. 17 ISSUE, a Sunday Inquirer Magazine article on Page 7—"The Ride of Her Life"—misstated the age of equestrienne Toni Leviste. She is 33—not 23—years old.

Readers may send their requests for correction of factual errors in writing to the Day Desk, Philippine Daily Inquirer, PDI Building, Chino Roces Avenue corner Magsaysay Street, Makati City, fax Nos. 897-47-93/94; e-mail address: daydesk@inquirer.com.ph.

Complaints about lack of fairness or objectivity may be sent to Lorna Kalaw Tirol, readers' advocate, e-mail address: readersadvocate@inquirer.com.ph or fax Nos. 897-47-93/94, Attn: Readers' Advocate. Her phone number is 897-8908 Local 342.

SEIKO

Legendary Strength.
Extraordinary Performance.



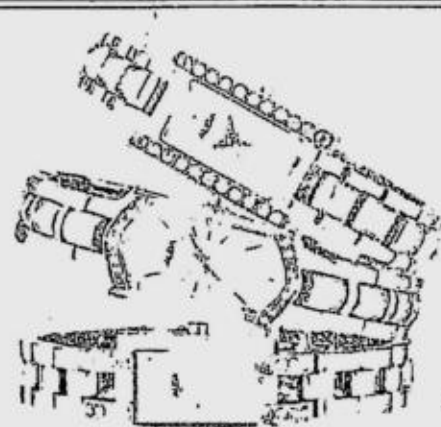
753602K0

SEIKO
SPORTS

Water Resistant 200m. SKZ231.

Always ask for a warranty card
FREE CHECK-OUT
Seiko Service Center
Exclusive quality service
w/ longest warranty

THE BEST SERVICE FOR SEIKO & ALBA WATCHES AT THESE SEIKO SERVICE CENTERS
• MAIN LABS.: 2310 Majalco Bldg., Pasong Tamo Ext., Makati City TEL.(632) 886-6771 to 72 • MAKATI : Gionetta 1, Ayala Center, Makati City Tel.(632) 892-8302 • MANILA : 1990 NCFUR Bldg., cor. Taft & Quirino Ave., Malate, Manila Tel.(632) 523-8676 • PASAY CITY : Grd. Flr., Metropoint Mall, EDSA cor. Taft Ave., Pasay City • QUEZON CITY : #4 Lower Grd. Flr., New Farmer's Plaza Araneta Center Cubao, Q. C. Tel.(632) 913-1908 • WB 206 SM City, North Ave., cor. EDSA Q. C. Tel.(632) 929-3097 • CAVITE : 008 SM City Bacoor, Tirona cor. Emilio Aguinaldo Hi-Way, Bacoor, Cavite Tel.(046) 970-4976 • CEBU : Lower Grd. Flr., SM City North Reclamation Area, Cebu City Tel.(032) 232-0782 • J. Rodriguez Bldg., Osmeña Blvd., Cebu City Tel.(032) 253-6936



ALBA

Available at any SEIKO Service Center and authorized Dealers nationwide

YEAR-END SALE

up to
50% OFF*

December 4-23, 2006

PER DTI / NCA PERMIT NO. A3-0000 SERIES OF 2004
ON SELECTED ITEMS ONLY



DEXTERTON

Dexterton Corporation

Main Showroom: 157 Sgt. E. Rivera St., O.C. Tel. 362-1111, Fax 362-0524
Makati Showroom: 4/F Lepanto Bldg. 8747 Paseo de Roxas, Makati Tel. 817-8666
Email: info@dexterton.com Website: www.dexterton.com

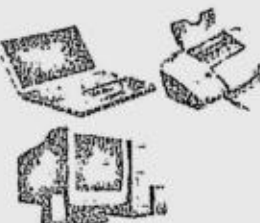
FINANCING & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

3-in-1 Internet Café Business Package for those interested to set-up an Internet Café Business

BIG BIG DISCOUNTS
and many more treebies!!!

We offer various business packages to cater to your needs, inclusive of the following:

- Computer hardware, software and peripherals;
- Internet-café set-up, and even business registrations;
- Linkages to other related business opportunities for faster Return On Investment (ROI) and bigger residual incomes
- Technical services and related supports; and
- Even FINANCING assistance for qualified proponents (OFWs, etc.)



WE DON'T JUST SELL, MORE THAN THAT,
WE HELP SET-UP YOUR BUSINESS!!!

GCRI Trade Center Tel: (02) 638-3374
637-3210 / 637-3211
(0922) 404-5762 / (0928) 257-9382

FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE



PINOY Dream Academy grand prize winner Josephine "Yeng" Constantino (right) hugs first runner-up Eduardo Jay-R Siaboc Jr. at the Big Dome on Saturday. RODEL ROTONI

Rocker is first 'Pinoy Dream Academy' winner

By Bayani San Diego Jr.
Entertainment

AN 18-YEAR-OLD FEMALE ROCK VOCALIST from Rizal province has topped the ABS-CBN reality talent search "Pinoy Dream Academy" (PDA)—the singing competition spin-off of the "Pinoy Big Brother" (PBB) franchise.

Josephine "Yeng" Constantino bested 19 other contestants or "scholars" as they were called on the show. She garnered 697,648 text and online votes or 37.32 percent of the 2.7 million votes cast—winning the title "Grand Star Dreamer," a million pesos and a recording contract during the grand finale held at the Araneta Coliseum on Saturday.

Close fight

First runner-up was another rock band singer, Cebuano Eduardo "Jay-R" Siaboc Jr., who posted 612,767 or 32.77 percent of the votes.

Second runner-up Ronnie Liang, a former ramp model from Pampanga, garnered 558,912 or 29.91 percent of the votes.

"It was a close fight," PDA director Laurenti Dyogi told the INQUIRER after the grand finals. He described PDA's big winner as "the real deal."

"She's young, talented and unique. The youth voted for her. Her edge is that she writes her own songs. She's a real musical artist," Dyogi said.

Filmmaker Jose Javier Reyes, media performance teacher on PDA, agreed: "Apart from the fact that she had a hit song ("Hawak-Kamay"), while she was still in the house/academy, she's the voice of young people."

"She writes beautiful songs and she can sing anything. Finally, we have a singer-songwriter who's pretty and a good person," said voice teacher Moy Ortiz of the singing group The Company.

Compositions ignored

"I thought I wouldn't make it. *Paos na paos ako* (I was hoarse). My voice wasn't at its best because I had a gig the night before. I'm also asthmatic," Constantino told the INQUIRER in an exclusive interview in her dressing room after the finals.

Before PDA beckoned, she performed with the Morning Glory band at the River Boogie bar in Marikina.

"We do local alternative rock songs by Kitchie Nadal and Barbie Almalbis. We also do reggae and hits by No Doubt (the band fronted by Gwen Stefani). Once in a while, I sing my own compositions, but they were often ignored by the audience," she said.

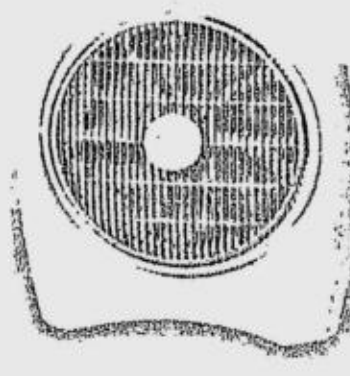
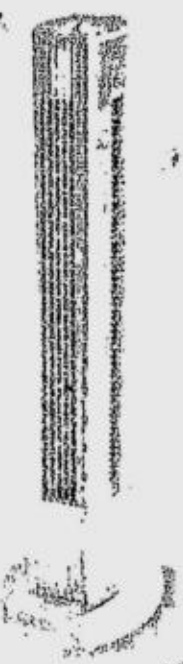
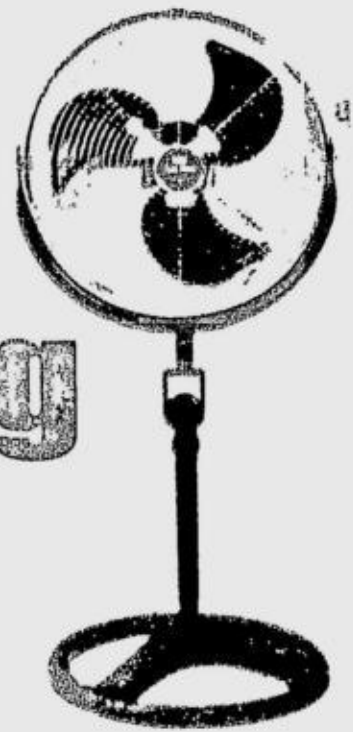
At the grand finals, she sang her own composition, "Ang Awitin," which proved to be her winning song.

Her prizes included a Suzuki Swift, a condominium, a TV set, a TMV (Touch Music Video) unit, a one-year recording contract with the Dream label of Star Records and P1 million in cash.

For Energy-Saving Times

3D

ELECTRIC FANS



3D

New Generation

The Quality You Trust Now Made Even Better.

Perfect Holiday Gifts!



BUY 1 MONTH GET 1 MONTH FREE!!!

FOR ENROLLEES TODAY!

TO GET YOU STARTED




NO JOINING FEES! CREDIT CARD OPTION AT 0%

EXACT RESULTS
Guaranteed 10% weight loss in 1 month!

BEST BODIES
WINNER KAREN VILLANUEVA Lost 22 lbs.

SAVE TODAY! FOR FIRST 25 ENROLLEES

BUY 15 TREATMENTS GET 15 FREE!!!

Introducing ENDOSLIM

An effective way of shaping your body and reducing the appearance of cellulite. The gentle suction combined with the action of the motorized rollers lift and roll the skin, thereby stimulating the vascular and lymphatic systems. As a result, toxins and abnormal fluid retention is eliminated from the body.

MESOTHERAPY

The latest technology in skin care & toning from Europe.

Diamond Ultra Peel is Skin Resurfacing

Resurfacing is a wonderful alternative to laser or chemical peels because it is non-invasive, non-surgical & requires no down time after treatment.

LOSE 16 INCHES IN ONLY 60 MINUTES AND ALL YOUR CELLULITES WITH

BODY METRICS

LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP! 0% INTEREST. NO MONTHLY FEES! NO JOINING FEES!

CALL US: 536-3333

FITNESS & SKIN

www.slimmersworld.com.ph
inquire@slimmersworld.com.ph

MOBILE 091-SLIMMERS NUMBER (75466377)

ALABANG Gemma / Mylene 81 BGC, Ilog Zapote whitening Rtl. 899 03 76	BINONDO Ama / Juvencio 31 Inang Bardon II 848 13 12	CALOCAN Roda / Oiva 61 Porcenas Jolly Road Ave. 345 79 53	GENJ Juni Bawant 1 & 2 Ayala Center 331 59 54	GREENHILLS Anna 375 Alabang Cir. 831 Alabang 739 66 00	LEGASPI VILL. Lara / Dennis 61 Jansing Garcera St. 893 89 35	MALATE Dora / Marissa 48 Alabang Circle Alabang Mall 836 06 17	MEGAMALL Rita / Iona 21 Bldg A Mallway 681 89 97	PASAY ROAD Yol / Rober 1000 Arroyo Ave. CSC Memorial Bld. 887 13 85	PASIG Berna Buntan Ave. Marina West 881 53 33	SM NORTH Edith 31 Arroyo Blvd. Quezon City 989 54 89	SUBIC Bella / Rocky 31 Prince Subic Subic City 288 89 14	TRAFALGAR Lara 288 Trafalgar Pkwy H.V. Lido Center 814 01 88
--	--	--	--	---	---	---	---	--	--	---	---	---

SKIN CENTER: ALABANG 775 05 87 / 0918 891 25 10 BINONDO 2422 07 28 / 0917 822 43 99 CALOCAN 365 76 53 GREENHILLS 726 16 26 / 0919 695 61 96 MALATE 525 98 91 / 0921 317 34 15
MEGAMALL 697 75 49 / 0916 247 97 55 PASAY ROAD 887 85 39 / 0916 689 33 88 PASIG 647 38 10 / 0916 899 46 23

AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR EQUIPMENTS



WORKSHOP CRANE
- 0.5 TO 5TON CAP.
- 50 TO 2440MM HT.

SHOP PRESS
- 10 TO 50TON CAP.
- PIPE BENDER
- 10 TO 16TON CAP.
- 1/2" TO 4" SIZE

BOTTLE JACK
- 2 TO 100TON CAP.
- TRANSMISSION JACK
- 0.5 TO 1TON CAP.

JACK STAND
- 3TON CAP.
- FLOOR JACK
- 2 TO 12TON CAP.

BATTERY CHARGER
- 6 TO 96VOLTS
- 5 TO 200AMPS

PORTABLE BODY REPAIR SET
- 10TON CAP.

FLOOR JACK

VICTOR HARDWARE
897-699 G. Araneta Ave., Quezon City, Philippines
Tel.: (632) 743-6761 • Fax: 743-4587 & 732-0169
E-mail: victorhardware@yahoo.com

ADB: Bad air killing more Asians

AIR POLLUTION IS KILLING MORE THAN half a million people in Asian cities each year, studies by the Asian Development Bank show.

A recent ADB conference in Indonesia was told that air pollution had reached "serious" levels in several Asian cities, with the problem worsening due to increased urbanization and motor vehicle use.

World Health Organization (WHO) expert Michal Krzyzanowski said that the estimate of premature deaths caused by urban air pollution has been revised upwards to over 750,000 globally, including more than 530,000 in Asia.

Experts cited the increase in an air pollutant known as fine particulate matter or PM10 that "enters the lungs and stays there." PM10 is a result of burning fossil fuels and much of the PM10 in Asian cities is emitted by motor vehicles.

"The concentration of the fine particulate matter is serious in Beijing, Dhaka, Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City, Jakarta, Kathmandu, Kolkata, New Delhi and Shanghai," the ADB warned in a report.

"There is a strong association between fine particulate matter and health issues in Asia as there is in Europe and the US, but in Asia the

concentrations of particulates are much higher," said the report's author, Dieter Schwela.

In many cities, the concentration of PM10 exceeds 70 micrograms per cubic meter. New WHO guidelines say this should be lower than 20 micrograms per cubic meter.

Bringing the level down to the guidelines could lower the number of deaths in polluted cities by as much as 15 percent every year, the WHO said, calling for lower limits of other pollutants such as ozone and sulfur dioxide.

"Asia's growth in population, urbanization, motorization and energy consumption remain key challenges in efforts to counter air pollution. For example, lower emissions from vehicles are counter-balanced by a higher volume of vehicles," the ADB said.

According to another ADB study, emerging Asia currently has rather low levels of personal motorized transport, in many cases comprising mainly of motorcycles, but these levels are likely to increase drastically as incomes in these countries grow and urban populations expand.

The Manila-based bank cited China, already the world's fourth-largest economy, where the

number of cars and sport utility vehicles could rise by as much as 15 times over the next 30 years to more than 190 million vehicles.

In India, the growth could be as much as 13-fold, it said.

Correspondingly, carbon dioxide emissions could be expected to rise 3.4 times for China and 5.8 times for India over the same period, the ADB study said.

To help address these problems, the Indonesia conference, attended by representatives of 20 Asian countries, issued a call for a review of air quality standards and air pollution indices over the region to make them more effective and more comparable to each other.

The conference summary also called for a new "roadmap" for improved fuel quality and emission standards for new vehicles, as well as more strategies to control emissions from vehicles already on the roads.

Other recommended measures included promoting clean, alternative, renewable energy, encouraging the use of mass public transport systems and even promoting urban housing that lowers energy consumption and emissions. *AFP*

cooler.faster.

Greet New Year quietly, cheaply, group urges

THE ENVIRONMENTAL ADVOCACY GROUP Ecowaste Coalition has urged the public to celebrate the New Year without using firecrackers, fireworks, polyvinyl chloride (PVC) cannons and burning tires because of possible environment and health hazards.

In a statement, the group instead encouraged Filipinos to blow paper horns, bang pans and pots and play musical instruments to welcome the New Year.

Money spent on firecrackers, it said, would be better spent to buy food and other essential needs.

"The senseless injuries and deaths from the year-end celebration is certainly not the way to scare off evil spirits and usher in good tidings to people's doorsteps," said Riedo Panaligan, coordinator of the Manila-based coalition.

Blasting firecrackers, PVC cannons and other noisemakers, he noted, only yielded smoke and dust loaded with harmful chemical compounds that aggravate "the already poor air quality causing throat and chest congestion and asthma attacks."

The Ecowaste Coalition said in a press statement that firecracker explosions produced excessive noise, which could lead to anxiety, stress, sleep disorders, hearing disabilities, high blood pressure and heart attacks.

The coalition also said that firecrackers usually left residual wastes such as paper scraps, plastic wrappers, cellophane and PVC pipes which were all harmful to the environment.

"PVC increases the toxicity of municipal discards and threatens groundwater with the leaching of its toxic additives such as phthalates, lead and other chemicals," it said.

The open burning of PVC, it added, contained dioxin emissions and dioxin laden ashes, which were naturally toxic.

Meanwhile, the group urged Health Secretary Francisco Duque to issue an urgent health advisory on the use of PVC cannons, which it believed would "prevent further harm and injury in the future." *Marlon Alexander Luistro, Inquirer Southern Luzon*

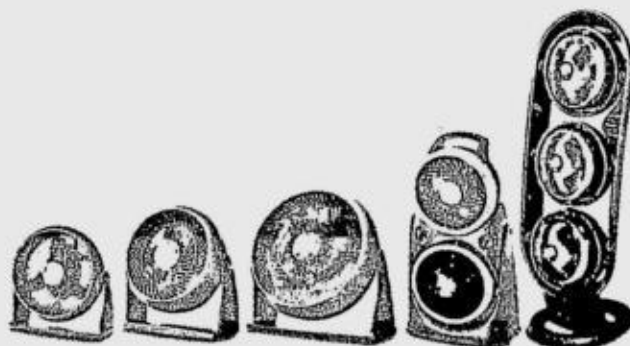


Make your room cooler, faster and save more on electricity with this line of air circulators from Honeywell.

Using revolutionary Turbo Force Technology, it enhances the oscillation of cool air from your air conditioner and evenly distributes it around your home, effectively increasing the air circulation to create a stronger airflow. It also has single, twin, and multi-pivot options, so air is circulated more effectively from various airflow directions.

What's more, it's energy-saving and environment-friendly. Test results* of a room's temperature reveal that as cool air from the air conditioner flows downwards, a difference of 3°C can be distinguished between the upper and lower parts of the room. However, with the use of a Honeywell air circulator, the temperature difference drops to 0.5°C in 10 minutes while traditional fans can only drop the difference to 1°C after 150 minutes. The faster your room becomes cold, the less energy you consume.

Honeywell



*An internal test by business partner, COPCO, Ltd. 2005

Available at all leading appliance stores, home improvement stores and hypermarkets. Also at the following Aristo showrooms: Level 4, Shangri-la, EDSA, Mandaluyong City Tel. Nos: 631-8262/633-2906 AYALA CENTER GLORIETTA 4 4th Level Tel. No: 815-8429 Telefax 887-0075 MC HOME DEPOT FORT BONIFACIO 32nd St. cor. Bonifacio Blvd., Global City Fort Bonifacio, Taguig, Metro Manila Tel. No. 815-8875

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Monday, December 18, 2006
3rd Week of Advent

1st Reading: Jer 23:5-8
Gospel: Matthew 1:18-25

This is how Jesus Christ was born. Mary his mother had been given to Joseph in marriage but before they lived together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit.

Then Joseph, her husband, made plans to divorce her in all secrecy. He was an upright man, and in no way did he want to discredit her.

While he was pondering over this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, descendant of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife. She has conceived by the Holy Spirit, and now she will bear a son. You shall call him Jesus" for he will save his people from their sins."

All this happened in order to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: The virgin will conceive and bear a son, and he will be called Emmanuel which means: God-with-us. When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had told him to do and he took his wife to his home. So she gave birth to a son and he had not had marital relations with her. Joseph gave him the name of Jesus.

Commentary

Balaam was sent to curse Israel and yet when he opens his mouth the Spirit of God is what rushes forth in rapture at the goodness and strength of God. He is eloquent in praise of what God has done for his people and their lands and what he still intends to do. And he foretells of a star that will advance from Jacob and a staff that will rise from Israel. The leaders surround Jesus, questioning what he is saying and doing, opposing him; but Jesus bests them by questioning them. Jesus is that star recognized by the poor and the staff that will lead his own to justice and salvation. Jesus' power is wisdom and truth. Are we resistant and in opposition to God, and does God have to work through us in spite of us?

Claretian Publications Inc., 8 Mayumi St., UP Village, Diliman, Quezon City, UP P.O. Box 4, Diliman, 1101 Quezon City; Tel.: 921-3984; Fax: 921-7429; E-mail: cci@claret.org; Websites: <http://www.bible.claret.org> (Claretian Publications Inc.) & <http://missionaries.claret.org> (Claretians in the Philippines)

Bicol folk cope with stress of typhoon disaster

By Ephraim Aguilar
Inquirer Southern Luzon

LEGAZPI CITY—TWO WEEKS AFTER Supertyphoon "Reming" ravaged the Bicol region, survivors now living in refugee camps still have to recover from the trauma and stress that the tragedy brought to their lives.

At Gogon Elementary School, where more than 450 displaced families from Barangay Padang in this city were housed, traces of weaknesses among the survivors have begun to emerge.

Jun-jun Abella, a counseling psychologist of Mararabay Ka (You will get well), a treatment facility that caters primarily to the psychosocial needs of addicts but, at this time, of lahar victims in Padang, said the dominant feelings now among the survivors were anger, fear, sadness and guilt.

A 5 to 6-year old child who lost a three-year old sister won't talk. An-

other child bangs his head on the wall and floor during the night blaming himself for the death of his younger siblings.

These were just two of the many stories Abella recalled from the stress debriefing sessions they have been conducting for more than four days now.

The Mararahay Ka counseling sessions and stress debriefing activities for children and adults in Gogon are being run by Abella, 38, and two other staff members—RJ Seguenza, 35, and Francis Paner, 38. All three were former drug dependents who were able to overcome their addiction and start their lives anew.

Drawings

Paner and Seguenza would begin the sessions with physical exercises and group singing. Then the children were given paper and crayons for them to draw their experiences during the disaster

and express their feelings through drawings.

Abella said the children's varying degrees of experiences and emotions were reflected in the drawings.

"Having witnessed this scene during the tragedy is tantamount to having experienced abuse. It may have caused fear on the child that has to be properly dealt with," he added, as he pointed to a child's artwork drawn with a red pen.

The drawing: Three clouds, drops of rain, a battered tree, a house without signs of damage, which seemed like just an ordinary scene after a typhoon. But in the lower part were 15 horizontal bodies being helplessly washed away by lahar. It was drawn by a child who lost 16 of his kin when torrents of sand and boulders swamped Barangay Padang on Nov. 30.

After the art session, the facilitators would let the children form a circle and help them "process" what they

had drawn, asking them how they felt.

A small girl suddenly hid under her blouse and cried after confessing she had lost her parents.

Some children, and even adults, have developed fear of water after the floods. There was a little girl who would severely chill every time she got wet, Seguenza said.

Many children also do not want to return to their villages anymore. Some labeled their drawings "Malungkot" (Sad) or "Natatakot" (Fearful).

Blaming God

Abella said they were also conducting group and individual counseling sessions for the parents of the children.

He added that while many adult victims felt extreme sadness, anger and guilt after losing their children, they also were angry with God, blaming Him for the disaster that happened.

Abella said a man who lost his wife

and other children is now questioning God's existence.

Abella would ask a common question to the survivors during the sessions, "Why do you think you were destined to survive?"

"I would want the survivors to realize there is a reason why they were not buried by the lahar and that they still have a special purpose to fulfill," he said.

Shades of hope

While many of the children's drawings reflected shades of utter despair and fear, Abella said, there were also those that showed hope.

A few children still managed to draw flowers and the sun while there were those who drew higher houses, which could not be reached by floods.

Some 62 were killed while 163 were still missing in Barangay Padang, said the Provincial Disaster Coordinating Council in Albay.

Senate set to protect RP biodiversity

By TJ Burgonio

THE SENATE IS PUSHING FOR THE PROTECTION of the country's 'biodiversity hot spots' such as the Tubbataha reef and Apo reef natural parks, the El Nido protected area, and the Turtle islands sanctuary, and 14 other scenic spots which are considered "must-see destinations" for tourists.

To ensure that future generations would get to savor their pristine beauty, the House of Representatives has filed several bills declaring these 18 "biodiversity hot spots" in Luzon, the Visayas and Mindanao as protected areas, a move that has gained support from the Senate.

Sen. Pia Cayetano, chair of the environment committee, has sponsored the measures on the floor and pressed for their immediate approval.

Once declared as protected areas, the government would draw up a mechanism to protect their biodiversity against "destructive human exploitation" such as poaching and logging, according to Cayetano, herself an environmentalist.

"It is crucial that we act on these measures now to ensure that our children and the succeeding generations will inherit a living earth with all of its bountiful natural resources and vibrant wildlife," she said in her sponsorship speech.

Cayetano noted that there were 108 protected areas, but only Mounts Kanlaon, Apo, Kitanglad, Hamuiguitan and Malindang, Sagay Marine Reserve, Northern Sierra Madre and the Batanes islands were covered by law.

Protected areas refer to biologically significant public lands that are habitats of rare and endangered species of plants and animals, biogeographic zones and related ecosystems, whether terrestrial, wetland or marine.

Tubbataha park, with a reef area of 96,828 hectares in Cagayancillo, Palawan, is a top scuba diving destination. It was declared a Unesco World Heritage Site in 1993 and was identified as "extremely high" for marine diversity conservation under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands.

The 15,792-ha Apo Park in Occidental Mindoro, on the other hand, hosts the largest atoll-like reef in the country.

The El Nido-Taytay Managed Resource Protected Area in northwest Palawan is home to four species of endangered marine turtles; 197 fish species, including rare dolphins and whales; 16 species of birds and six species of rare terrestrial mammals.

The other areas in Luzon sought to be protected are the Bessang Pass Natural Monument and Lidlidda-Banayoyo Protected Landscape, both in Ilocos Sur; Agoo-Damortis Protected Seascape and Landscape in La Union; Mounts Banahaw and San Cristobal Protected Landscape in Laguna and Quezon; Malampaya Sound Protected Landscape and Seascape in Palawan; Sinarapan Sanctuary in Camarines Sur, and Tacogon Reef National Marine Park in the waters between Sorogon and Masbate.

Sinarapan sanctuary, which comprises four lakes in Buhi, Camarines Sur, is the well-known habitat and breeding area of the world's smallest fish (Mystichus Luzonensis), locally known as "sinarapan."

In the Visayas, the lawmakers sought to declare the Northern Negros Natural Park in Negros Occidental, home to the endangered Philippine Spotted Deer and Visayan Warty Pig; the Central Cebu Protected Landscape in Cebu and the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park in Negros Oriental as protected areas.

In Mindanao, apart from the Turtle wildlife islands sanctuary in the Sulu Sea, the Aliwag Falls in Davao Oriental and Compostela; islands of Siargao and Bucas Grande in Surigao del Norte; Mount Hilong-Hilong Range in Agusan del Norte, and the Agusan Marsh Wildlife Sanctuary were also being eyed as protected areas.

Nokia N91 8GB
stores up to 6,000 songs in its hard drive

Nokia N70 Music Edition
Now with
1GB (up to 700 songs)
memory

Nokia N73 Music Edition
Now with 2GB
(up to 1,500 songs) memory



Play it. Hear it. Groove it.
More memory for your music.

Enjoy gigabytes of play space on the new Nokia Nseries device. Pack in all the songs and videos you want. Then plug in the 3.5mm audio adapters to blast your playlist through the nearest stereo speakers. Start a party -- and keep groovin' all night long.

Check out www.nokia.com.ph/nseries for a closer look.

It's as easy as
1-2-3



560° Open to new features

MP3
PLAYER
:mp4

Specifications subject to change without prior notice.
* Capacity based on 3:45 minutes per song and 48 kbps AAC+ encoding on the Nokia N91 8GB memory.
Copyright © 2006 Nokia. All rights reserved. Nokia, Nokia Connecting People, Nokia Nseries, N70, N73 and N91 are trademarks or registered trademarks of Nokia Corporation.

NOKIA
Nseries

VISIT OUR NOKIA STORES:

Nokia Store Greenbelt
2nd Level Greenbelt 1
Makati City
752-7814

Nokia Store DX
3rd Level Digital Exchange
Glorietta, Makati City
752-8543

Nokia Store Morato
G/F Landsberg Place,
Tomas Morato, Quezon City
373-7110 to 13

Nokia Store Festival
3rd Level Festival Mall
Filinvest, Muntinlupa City
772-5117 or 850-8487

Nokia Store North Edsa
G/F Cyberzone
SM Mall North Edsa, Quezon City
426-7990

Nokia Store Galsano Davao
3rd Level Galsano Mall,
Davao City
(082) 225-4065

Nokia Store Gateway
3rd Level, Gateway Mall
Araneta Center
Cubao, Quezon City
911-9164

Nokia Store
Robinsons Manila
3rd Level Robinsons Mall,
Manila
526-6703

Nokia Store
Robinsons Galleria
G/F Robinsons Galleria
Ortigas Center,
Mandaluyong City
637-6423

Nokia Store SM Davao
3rd Level SM Mall
Davao City
(082) 297-5807

Nokia Store Tacloban City
Salazar St., Tacloban City
(053) 325-4988

Nokia Store Cagayan de Oro
G/F Limketkai Center Mall
Cagayan de Oro City
(088) 856-9992

Nokia Store ATC
3rd Level New Wing Alabang Town
Center, Alabang Muntinlupa City
850-7859

Nokia Concept Store Mall of Asia
5th Level Podium,
Ortigas Center
Mandaluyong City

Nokia Store Podium
5th Level Podium,
Ortigas Center
Mandaluyong City

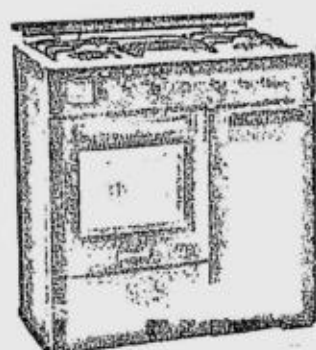
Nokia Store Greenhills
Space #14 & 15
G/F Annapolis Carpark
Greenhills Shopping
Center, Greenhills

Make sure your new Nokia Nseries Multimedia Computer is protected by a 12-month warranty on parts and services from Nokia Care. Buy only at authorized Nokia outlets. Visit www.nokia.com.ph to check the retail store nearest you. For inquiries, call the Nokia Careline at (02) 886-1234

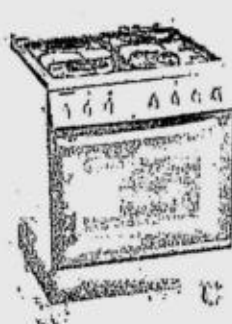
SEASON'S APPLIANCES @

Anson's

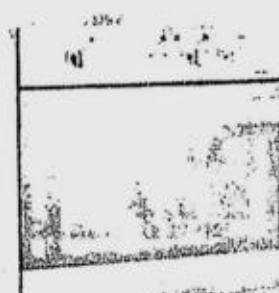
laGERMANIA



SL-8041 30WTR
 • 4 Gas Burner
 • 1 Electric hotplate
 • Gas oven
 • Grill Function
P4,165.83/mo.
 6 mos.



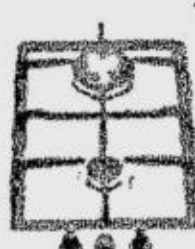
D-65121x
 • 3 Gas Burner
 • 1 Electric hotplate
 • Gas oven
 • Grill Function
P5,999.17/mo.
 6 mos.



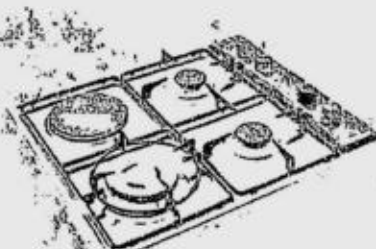
F-650E5x
 • 4 Settings Convention oven
 • Build in type
P3,632.50/mo.
 6 mos.



SL-540 30WTR
 • 4 Gas Burner cooking range
 • Gas oven
 • Grill Function
P13,995.00 cash

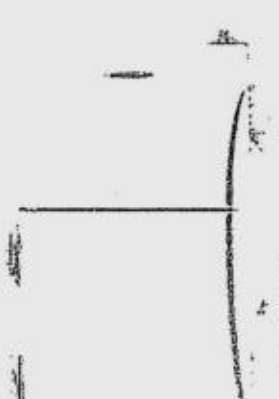


DH-6201NOX
 • Twin Jet Burner
 • Cast Iron 2 Burner
 • Stainless Knob
P1,416.67/mo.
 6 mos.

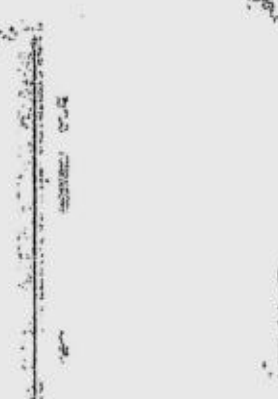


H-631 INOX
 • 3 Gas Burner
 • 1 Electric hotplate
 • Micro Switch
P1,432.50/mo.
 6 mos.

Fisher & Paykel



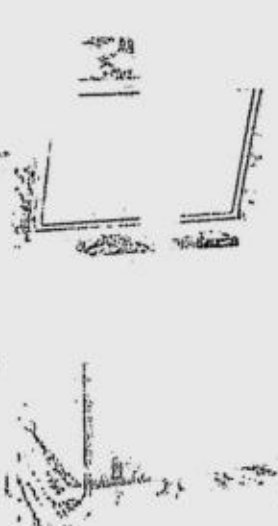
E-381TRE
 380 ltrs. Top Mount Ref.
P2,947.92/mo.
 12mos.



C-373
 373 ltrs. Ref.
P2,874.93/mo.
 12mos.



E-522BRX
 519 ltrs. Refrigerator
P5,814.92/mo.
 12mos.



H-280SL
 276 ltrs. Chest freezer
P1,558.25/mo.
 12mos.

MAKATI
 AYALA CENTER A. ARNAIZ AVE
845-3006 TO 08
FAX 892-1395
 3RD FLR. THE LANDMARK
819-1513 819-1354

ALABANG
 ALABANG TOWN CENTER
 SECOND LEVEL, MADRIGAL
 AVE. ENTRANCE
772-3684 & 85

ORTIGAS
 EDSA NODE LEVEL 3
 ROBINSONS GALLERIA
632-9483 TO 85

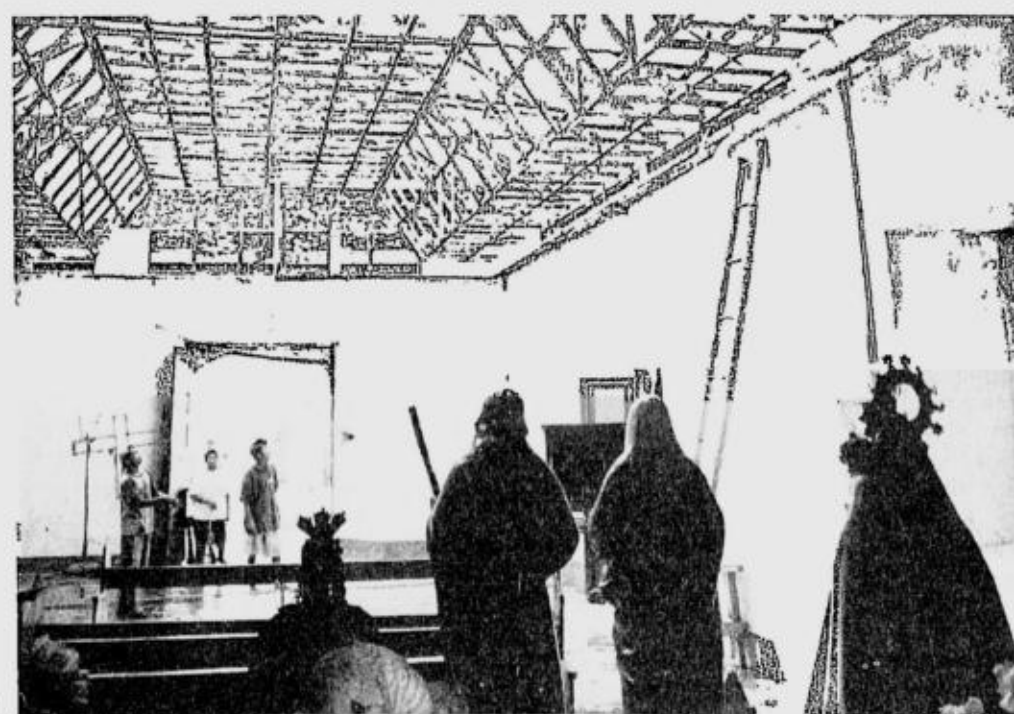
MANILA
 800 SALAZAR ST.
 BINONDO, MANILA
241-3350
243-2101

ansonsathome@yahoo.com

CEL NO. 0922-8ansons
 (267667)

A3

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER MONDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2006



REPAIR work is still ongoing at the San Vicente chapel in Barangay San Vicente, Virac, Catanduanes, which served as evacuation center for residents at the height of Supertyphoon "Reming."
 REY BANQUET, CONTRIBUTOR

Politics hounds ...

From page A1

destruction wrought by Supertyphoon "Reming" on Nov. 30.

Reming, the strongest storm to hit the province since "Sening" in 1970, made landfall with gusts of at least 265 kilometers per hour, killing 17 people and injuring 274 others.

Some 16,000 homes were destroyed and 23,650 homes damaged.

Responding to the request for assistance from the national government, Ms Arroyo ordered Andaya to release P15 million for the rehabilitation of typhoon-affected areas and an additional 1,000 bags of rice.

Lack of assistance

The President's visit, which lasted barely an hour, was reportedly made after the bishop and some local officials bewailed the lack of relief assistance being sent by Malacanang. (See related story on Page A7.)

Of the 250-truck "Mercy Mission Caravan" that Ms Arroyo sent off to Bicol on Dec. 12 in Pasay City, none of the 10 truckloads of goods promised the island materialized, according to the PDCC.

It was earlier reported that 20 percent of the relief goods carried by the caravan would go to Catanduanes.

During the meeting, Ms Arroyo also ordered the Department of Education in Bicol to speed up the repair of all typhoon-damaged school buildings in the province.

Damage to schools

The DepEd has placed Reming's damage to school buildings at P202.2 million, with the bulk suffered by the DepEd districts in Virac, San Andres, Bato and Baras.

Without electricity, potable water

Virac's north and south districts as well as its national high schools suffered at least P75 million in damage, more than a third of the division's total.

Power still has to be restored in much of the province after Reming damaged 85 percent of the First Catanduanes Electric Cooperative

Inc.'s distribution lines.

Half of the capital town is still without potable water, prompting Ms Arroyo to issue a directive that a portable water filter be sent to the province.

The province, according to Verceles, still needs medicine, food, shelter materials and equipment for the rehabilitation effort.

Politics in relief distribution

Allegations of bias in the distribution of relief goods got the goat of the governor, who described the gripping as political intrigue.

The issue came up during the governor's dialogue with Andaya, who briefly visited the province on Dec. 13.

Andaya had reportedly asked Verceles about reports that three of the five most affected municipalities had not been given relief goods by the PDCC.

The allegations irked the governor, who presented to Andaya the latest report on the relief operations conducted by the PDCC, the Department of Social Welfare and Development, other agencies and nongovernment organizations.

"There is no politics in the relief distribution," Verceles said. "Anybody who wants, we give."

Baras, Bato, San Miguel

Apparently, Andaya had received a report claiming that the towns of Baras, Bato and San Miguel had not been given their share of the relief goods.

Verceles referred to the PDCC report, which stated that nearly 60 percent of the 46,592 families in 11 towns affected by Reming had been given relief assistance.

Three towns—Virac, Viga and San Miguel—were fully served.

In San Andres, 2,256 of the 7,981 families were given relief goods, and in Baras, 1,000 of the 3,200 families. In Bato, 1,303 of the 4,621 families also received assistance.

GI sheets

All told, a total of P4.8 million has been spent for the procurement and distribution of relief goods in the province since Nov. 30.

The provincial government is allocating P1.4 million for the procurement and distribution of galvanized iron sheets and other materials for public schools heavily damaged by the supertyphoon.

The provincial government would initially focus its typhoon rehabilitation efforts on damaged schools, which will be given GI sheets, according to Verceles.

A source at the Provincial Engineering Office, however, told the INQUIRER that the P1.4 million allocated for the purchase of GI sheets, roofing nails and roof sealant would not be enough to address the needs of the schools.

The initial estimate of 2,912 GI sheets for 103 elementary and secondary schools in Virac, Bato, Baras, San Andres, Gigmoto and San Miguel would have to be validated before the allocation list is finalized.

The P1.4 million for the GI sheets, it was claimed, would be good for 1,000 pieces of 8-foot GI sheets and 1,000 pieces of 10-foot GI sheets, as well as 500 kilograms of umbrella nails and 100 liters of sealant.



Return
to your
thirties

Revolutionary, all-natural hormone therapy—now in the Philippines

At the New York Anti-Aging Centers, we offer a unique but proven, natural, pellet-based therapy to balance your hormones and reverse the symptoms of aging—both for MEN and WOMEN.

You may be a candidate for natural, human identical hormone therapy if you experience the following symptoms:

- Lack of energy and/or decreased sex drive
- Hot flashes or mood fluctuations
- Headaches, memory lapses and/or lack of focus
- Menopausal or Andropausal symptoms
- Weight gain and other similar symptoms

Now open in Metro Manila, the New York Anti-Aging Centers' hormone therapy uses natural, soy and plant-based (non-synthetic) human identical hormone pellets that restore the hormone levels in your body to make you look and feel young.

This safe, non-surgical procedure lasts only a few minutes and is performed by a US-trained OB/GYN at our center in Ortigas.

Benefits of the procedure include:

- Increased energy level and sexual desire
- Stable moods and relief from anxiety & depression
- Decreased body fat and better ability to exercise
- Better mental focus, clarity and other benefits.

Call or visit now! 9149888 • 3957331

website: www.newyorkantiagingcenters.com
 email: manila@newyorkantiagingcenters.com



**NEW YORK
 ANTI-AGING
 CENTERS**

Look Young • Feel Young • Live Young

26/F Wyndham Plaza, 22 F. Ortigas Jr. Road (formerly Emerald Ave) Ortigas (Behind Discovery Suites)

More employment opportunities in today's

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

JOB Market

Where You Find The Best.

Bangkok • Chiang Mai • Darwin • Guangzhou • Hanoi • Hat Yai • Ho Chi Minh City • Kuala Lumpur • Macau • Manila (Clark) • Padang • Phuket • Shenzhen • Singapore • Udon Thani (Mienam)

WHY CHEAP TICKETS BUY MORE HOLIDAYS

WYR

WYR is a leading travel agency in the Philippines, offering a wide range of services to its clients. We are currently offering a special promotion on our flights to various destinations in Southeast Asia. Book now to take advantage of this limited-time offer.

WYR Travel Agency, Inc. is a member of the Philippine Travel Association (PTA).

Get the real deal now

Book online today or call our Preferred Sales Agent:
TRI-C/S Corporation - Tel (832) 667 3588-88

Shuttle bus available - Philtranco Terminal at SM Megamall, Ortigas Centre (P300 one-way) and Philtranco Pasay Terminal (P350 one-way) to/from Diosdado Macapagal International Airport.

Get your Tiger Add-Ons at our website now:

- NEW! Sports Equipment Check-in
- Luggage Upsize
- Hotel Deals
- Car Rentals



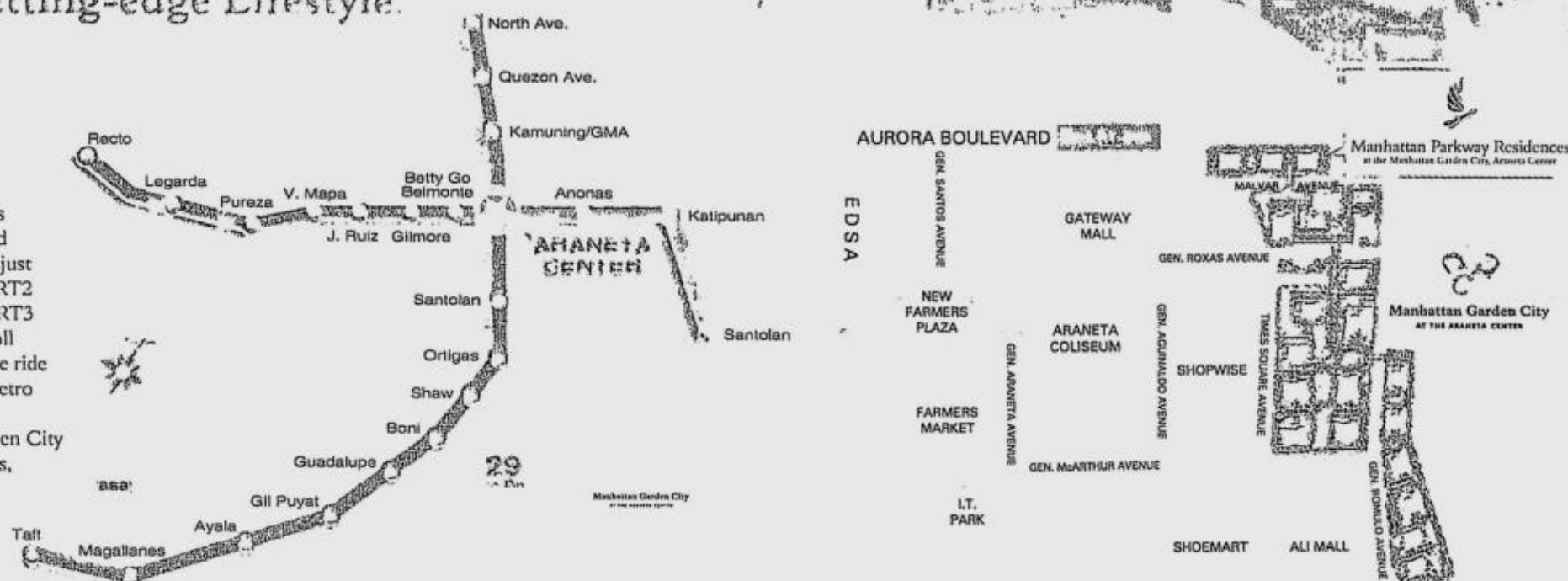
Manhattan Garden City

AT THE ARANETA CENTER

Connecting You to the Metro's Most Important Destinations.
And to a Cutting-edge Lifestyle.

The Manhattan Garden City is the country's first transit-oriented development, linking you to not just one but two train systems: the LRT2 along Aurora Boulevard. And MRT3 along EDSA. So you're just a stroll away from a quick and traffic-free ride to virtually all major points of Metro Manila.

What's more, Manhattan Garden City connects you to the shops, offices, restaurants and entertainment centers at the Araneta Center. So you can live, shop, play and move like never before.



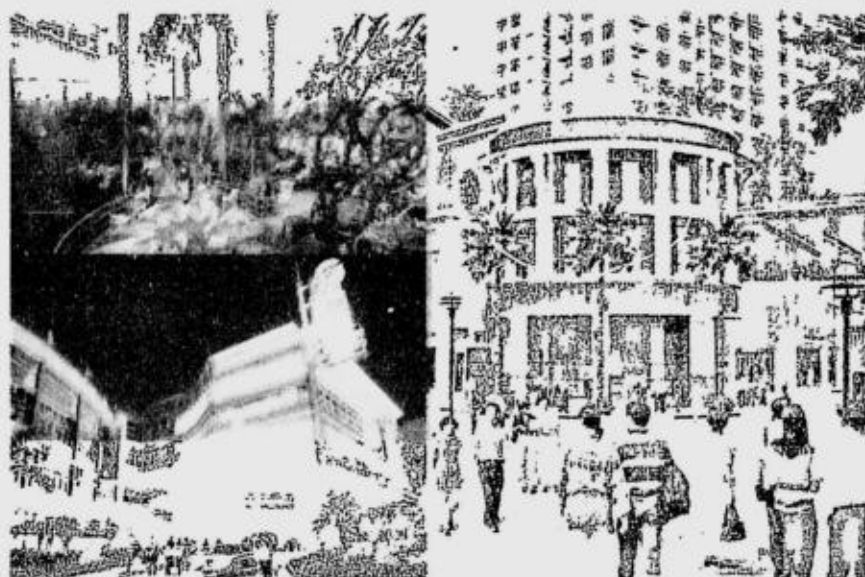
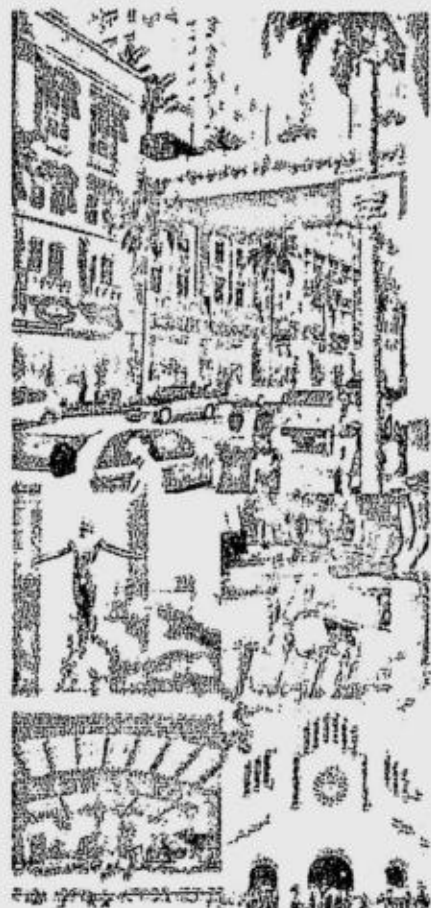
Easy ride around the metro.

A 729-meter-long footbridge standing four stories above the streets interconnects all 20 residential towers of your community. And leads you straight to the LRT2 and MRT3. There are lush greenery and benches. So going to the train stations is as enjoyable as a walk in the park.

With the trains close by, the power to go places is yours. Your children can be in Ateneo or UP in Quezon City in just 8 minutes via the LRT2. Or Manila's university belt in 19 minutes.

Your wife can get to Divisoria's bargain stores in 29 minutes. While you can be in your office in Ortigas in 6 minutes, Ayala Avenue in 17 minutes or Taft Avenue in 22 minutes through the MRT3. And since both lines link up with the LRT1, you can reach many more places in the metro than ever before.

This means you spend less time on the road. And more fun time with family and friends.



Easy link to the Araneta Center.

Manhattan Garden City enjoys direct access to the giant playground that's the Araneta Center. Your entry point is a four-level transfer station with a hotel-style lobby, grand staircase and four passenger elevators. The station connects you at the third level to the Gateway Mall and its Oasis floating garden. From there, you're just steps away from Rustan's, SM, Shopwise, Ali Mall, Farmers Plaza and the iconic Araneta Coliseum.

Manhattan Parkway Residences

at the Manhattan Garden City, Araneta Center

Manhattan Garden City welcomes you to its first phase: Manhattan Parkway. Take your pick of cozy executive studios and relaxing one-bedroom suites housed in three towers. With sweeping views of the Araneta Center and Manila Bay. At the fourth-story garden deck, enjoy the trellised walkways, jogging trails, fitness station, indoor sauna/spa and gym. And you're just a footbridge away from more play amenities—and more fun—at the upcoming phases.

A FIRST from Megaworld in cooperation with Security Bank



MEGAWORLD HOMELITE

A NEW ERA IN AFFORDABLE HOME FINANCING

Now, you can own a luxurious studio at Manhattan Parkway the really easy way—for as low as **P10,246 a month fixed for 20 years.**

Choose from our revolutionary, budget-friendly packages, including HOMELITE 10, HOMELITE 15 or HOMELITE 25.

For more details, inquire from our HOMELITE specialist.

Call **810-3333** now.

Visit our **MAN PARKWAY** at the third floor of the Gateway Mall.



Joint Venture Partner:



www.aranetacenter.net

Exclusive Marketing Agent:



MEGAWORLD CENTRAL PROPERTIES, INC.
inquire@themanhattangardency.com

DEVELOPER:



MEGAWORLD CORPORATION

www.megaworldcorp.com
ISO 9001:2000 CERTIFIED

NGO's waterless toilets ...

From page A1

be exported to Europe by a non-government organization in the Philippines.

The Center for Advanced Philippine Studies (CAPS), which manufactures urine-diverting bowls for Ecosan toilets and provides training to users here, has received orders from Bulgaria for 500 bowls, according to its director Dan Lapid.

First introduced in Africa to address the region's sanitation and water shortage problems, Ecosan toilets are now being used in China, Mexico, Ecuador, Sweden, India and Germany as well.

Ecosan is the lead component of the Integrated Support for Sustainable Urban Environment, a Netherlands-supported program aimed at building models in waste management and sanitation to improve the lives of the poor, especially in developing countries.

"It is a poverty alleviation program through proper sanitation and solid waste management," Lapid told the INQUIRER.

Most interested in the unconventional Ecosan toilets are poor settlements saddled with the double dilemma of a huge sanitation problem and no access to water, he said.

In the Philippines, a case in point is Barangay San Agustin, a coastal community in La Union where at least 500 residents—mostly fishermen and their families—had to make do with three communal toilets.

Dreadful part of life

San Agustin resident Vivian Casuga recalled to CAPS trainers how having to wait to use the communal toilet was the most dreadful part of her life as a fisherman's wife.

Casuga could not put up visiting family members for lack of a toilet. Worse, she had to often advise her children to relieve themselves in the busy alley in front of their house.

Being a health worker in the barangay, she was aware that this practice was both unsightly and unhealthy. Still, she did not have the time to queue at the communal toilet with her kids because she had other duties.

Faced with this stinking problem in her constituency, San Fernando City Mayor Mary Jane Ortega wasted no time in contacting CAPS when she read a proposal for funding that it submitted to the World Bank in 2004.

After much social preparation marred by the residents' understandable resistance to the idea of collecting human feces and urine for composting, the Ecosan toilets were built.

The center has put up 60 Ecosan toilets in San Agustin and Barangay Nagyubuyuban since January, and, with a P1-million allocation from the city government, is preparing to do the same in seven other barangays.

The local Science Centrum and botanical garden have also installed Ecosan toilets.

Convenient but...

"There are so many problems with the current conventional system where you flush and you forget it ... It's very convenient but it's very bad for the environ-

ment," said Lapid, who had an Ecosan toilet built just outside his Quezon City house.

Experts now view the use of septic tanks for disposal of human waste—the practice of about 90 percent of the Philippine population—as unsustainable because of the emerging problem of water shortage and lack of treatment facilities, he said.

According to Lapid, less than 10 percent of the country is connected to a sewerage plant that treats effluents before they go out to the waterways.

Treating effluents is necessary to avoid groundwater contamination and water pollution, but the problem is that "these go straight to our canals and rivers," Lapid said.

"Our rivers are dead because of very bad sanitation," he said, adding that 50 percent of the pollution in Philippine waters came from domestic liquid waste.

Waste segregation

On the other hand, an Ecosan toilet, which needs proper ventilation and has to be maintained at a temperature of about 30 degrees, allows the segregation of human feces and urine in separate chambers.

The feces are covered with lime and ash or sawdust, which kill pathogens and facilitate drying to prevent foul odor. These are then collected by the local government and composted for use as fertilizer. (In La Union, these are brought to the botanical garden.)

Studies show that 30-50 kilograms of human feces can produce 7.5 kg of nitrogen, phosphorous and potassium, enough to help produce 230 kg of food—a regular person's average annual intake.

For the period 2007-10, the CAPS aims to supply Ecosan toilets to 5,000 households, as well as training in the proper use of the urine-diverting bowls. At least 600 bowls have been sold locally since the Ecosan toilet was introduced last year.

This year alone, the CAPS has sold bowls to Sorsogon, Bais City in Negros Oriental, Anda and Alaminos City in Pangasinan, and Santol, Caba and Agoo in La Union.

Pioneer user San Fernando is building a fisherman's village composed of houses equipped with Ecosan toilets. Gawad Kalina has also installed such toilets in 35 of the 50 houses it built in Tarlac this year.

Global water crisis

The 2006 UN Human Development Index has highlighted the global water crisis as among the most pressing poverty issues.

Some 2.6 billion people worldwide lack access to adequate sanitation and one billion have no access to clean water, the UN report said.

Every year, some 1.8 million children die of diarrhea and other illnesses caused by unclean water and poor sanitation.

"Few countries treat water and sanitation as a political priority, as witnessed by limited budget allocation," the report said.

With Ecosan making its way halfway across the globe, the future may look—and smell—a bit better for the world's poorest.

VIPER
CONVERTS YOUR GATE TO REMOTE CONTROLLED
P35,000
VIPER SWING
P45,000 P45,000
Free Installation!
Call: 243-2610, 241-4731, (0919)2482183
Available at: MC Home Depot / Fort & Ortigas

****PABX For Only P6,000****
Helping business to communicate
3 Lines / 3 Locals up to 128 Locals
Built-in Intercom
Voice Mail
Teleconference Call
Caller ID
Call Pick - up/
Call Transfer
PLOT and NIC ACCREDITED
IDD / NDD Restriction
Day / Night Service
Power Fail Transfer
Call Forwarding
Auto Attendant
VOIP
Special promo for small offices P2,500 only
Call to 0919 PABX UNIT FOR MORE INFO
P6,000
FREE DEMO! We Also Offer CCTV & Internet Phone
Call: 715-8114 / 715-3908, 0917-8434545

IMAVISION
Main Office - Tel.: (632) 534-8888 - Fax: (632) 534-5555
Showroom - Tel.: (632) 532-6723 - Telefax: (632) 531-5120
674 Boni Avenue, Mandaluyong City, Phils. 1550
www.imavision.com.ph - email: info@imavision.com.ph
BANNER STAND, LIGHT BOX & PROMO TABLE
Roll up banner
Electric Roll Banner
Blue Stand
Twin Stand Banner
X Banner
Quick Stand Banner
Dado Shelf
3m Flagpole Banner
Roll up banner
Electric Roll Banner
Blue Stand
Twin Stand Banner
X Banner
Quick Stand Banner
Dado Shelf
3m Flagpole Banner
Roll up banner
Electric Roll Banner
Blue Stand
Twin Stand Banner
X Banner
Quick Stand Banner
Dado Shelf
3m Flagpole Banner

Panasonic
ideas for life
Plain Paper
KX-FM386
SRP: P9,990
KX-FP362
SRP: P8,590
KX-FP342
SRP: P6,590
KX-FA57E Ink Film (70m)
• Film used for KX-FP342, KX-FP362 and KX-FM386
KX-FA84E Drum Unit
• Drum unit used for KX-FL512

KEY FEATURES	KX-FT931	KX-FT933	KX-FT937	KX-FP342	KX-FP362	KX-FM386	KX-FL512
Automatic Paper Cutter							
Document Feeder	10 sheets	10 sheets	10 sheets	10 sheets	10 sheets	10 sheets	20 sheets
Navigator Key							
64-Level Halftone							
Copy Speed				4 PPM	4 PPM	4 PPM	10 PPM
Digital Speaker Phone							
Document Memory	28 pages (max)	28 pages (max)	28 pages (max)	28 pages (max)	28 pages (max)	28 pages (max)	170 pages (max)
Digital Answering System							
Sequential Broadcast	20 locations	20 locations	20 locations	20 locations	20 locations	20 locations	20 locations
Printer Function							
Scanner Function							
PC Fax							
*Caller-ID Ready							

*Caller-ID subscription required. Prices are based on suggested retail and are subject to change without prior notice. Features and design are subject to change without prior notice.

For dealer referrals, please call: **Panasonic Philippines (Sales Division of PMPC)**
Tel. Nos. 899-4595 to 98 • Fax No. 897-4558 • Email Address: pmpc_systemsales@ph.panasonic.com

David-Link - "Your office machine solution provider"

HEAVY DUTY BINDERS
Wire Binder
VIB-40250
40 Holes (14")
24 Holes (14")
BN-C240

MIMEOGRAPHING MACHINE
Adjustable
Printing Position
Pre-Sort Counter
50-8800

BILL COUNTERS
UV Counterfeit Detector
900 notes per minute
MC-2086
MC-3088

CHECKWRITERS
Multi-Currency
14 Digits
HEAVY DUTY
CW-1600

LAMINATOR
12 INCHES
Adjustable Temperature
4 HEAVY DUTY Rollers
LM-330A
3.5 12.5 mm

BUNDLY CLOCKS
Two Color Printing - Will Musical Melody
Auto Card Feed - Auto Column Shifting
Back-up Battery - HEAVY DUTY
CW-1600

Call: 243-2610, 241-4731, (0919)2482183
Available at: MC Home Depot / Fort & Ortigas
Cebu (032)3465498 Davao (082)2358821
CALL NOW! 815-1046
E-mail: davidlink.ph@yahoo.com
Website: www.davidlink.com.ph

DRAGON FIREWORKS
BIG PRICE OFF
Now Accepting Dealers
Tel Nos: 421-8135 / 811-2881 • Telefax: 421-7864 • Mobile No: 897-888888
Website: www.dragonfireworks.com • E-mail: dragonfireworks@yahoo.com

Take a walk...
be where you want to be
Rada Regency
Rada St., Legaspi Village, Makati City
24-story commercial & residential condominium
own a unit for as low as
P12,788/mo.
CITYLAND Leading Condominium Developer
Presidential Award
2005 CNBC Asia Business Leader Awards
Honor Roll (Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia)
MAKATI 812-2222 ORTIGAS 687-3333 BANGALUA 242-1212
www.cityland.net
investment@cityland.net

More employment opportunities in today's JOB MARKET.
Every Sunday with the **INQUIRER**
JOE MARK

Study at an Australian University in Singapore



Undergraduate Programs
• Management
• Marketing
• International Business
• Information Technology
• Psychology
Postgraduate Programs
• MBA (with specializations)
• Master of Information Technology
• Joint Master of Information Technology/MBA
Key Points
• Fast Track Programs
• Cost effective tuition fees and living costs
• Resident Australian Academics to ensure quality and standards

APPLY NOW FOR
MARCH, JULY & OCTOBER
2007 INTAKES



Lowest Price Guaranteed
or Your Money Back

ALL NEW!

Intel Pentium 4 2.93

P 20,999.00 w/ 17" LCD

• 256 MB DDR2 Memory (Lifetime Warranty)

• Integrated 9400S DDR2 Video

• 80GB 7200RPM Hard Drive

• CD/DVD & Floppy Drive

• Case with 400W PSU

• PS2 Keyboard/Mouse

• PS2 Optical Mouse

• 17" LCD Color Monitor

Buy computers online:

www.buyqube.com

Manila Cebu Davao

(02) 410 - QUBE (7823)

0922-4106849 to 50

Bishops push own Cha-cha; 'character change more important'

From page A1

Manila Archbishop Gaudencio Cardinal Rosales, generally quiet on political issues, threw his support behind the call for people to keep their vigilance.

Rosales reiterated the Church position that any Charter change should come through a constitutional convention, whose members would be elected and not beholden to the power holders.

"What breathes life into law is the spirit of man, not the spirit of the law moving man," he said in Filipino in his homily.

Moral change

More than Charter change, Rosales and Archbishop Angel Lagdameo, president of the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines, emphasized the need for "character change" among Filipinos.

"We need more importantly and more urgently this educative and moral character change," Lagdameo told the gathering.

"Call it repentance from sin, reform of morals, renewal of values. All of these, and the nation will rise with hope, right vision, and confidence."

"There must be reform in many of us—in all of us!" Rosales said in his homily.

He said the Church position did not mean an outright refusal to amend the 19-year-old Charter.

But reform should begin with individuals, including "the body entrusted with elections," he said. The remark was seen as being directed at the Commission on Elections, whose independence has been assailed by members of the opposition and civil society.

Organizers had initially called the rally to dramatize their opposition to efforts by Ms Arroyo's allies in Congress to revise the Constitution through a constituent assembly in which they themselves would rewrite the Charter and set up a parliamentary style of government.

Ailing cardinal

Massive public pressure forced the President and her allies to abandon their plan, at least for now.

Rosales' reference to political issues, which he reserved toward end of his homily, surprised one Church official.

"Part of the success of this gathering is the fact that the Cardinal has finally spoken," he told the INQUIRER.

The 74-year-old Rosales braved an illness which had confined him at the Cardinal Santos Memorial Medical Center and nearly kept him from celebrating the Mass with at least eight other bishops.

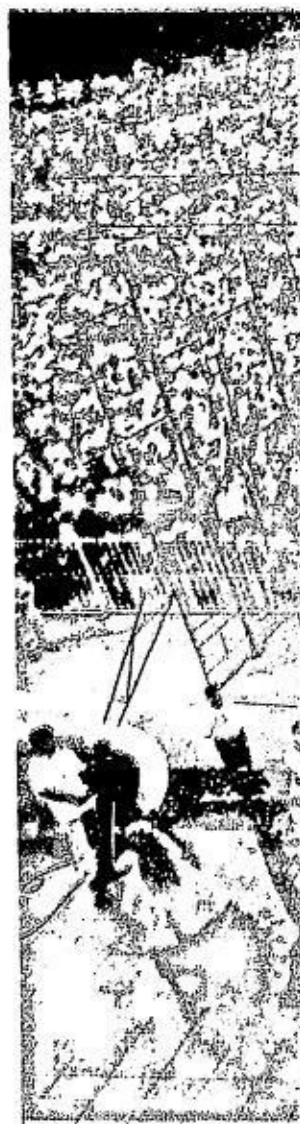
Organizers dubbed yesterday's rally as: "Watch and Pray: Show Concern to the Country."

In line with the appeal of the organizers, none of the groups that attended the rally carried their political banners or shouted slogans.

Msgr. Pedro Quitarro, spokesperson of the CBCP which called the rally, said the success of the gathering did not rest on numbers alone.

Quality, not quantity

"It's in the quality, not the quantity," said Quitarro, noting that the CBCP didn't even bother to send official invitations to parishes or specific personalities.



UNITED in their opposition to the CBCP's call for a prayer

"People came here on the early bird was form who came in her signature and a buri hat. She was for Franklin Drilon.

They were personally who descended from the Aquino and Drilon, both plastic chairs in front of the Bro. Mike Velarde of El S

stayed with the crowd through

Organizers earlier announced was exclusively for bishops who would be serving in the

Senators, too

Also around were Senator Jamby Madrigal, Jinggoy E. Panfilo Lacson, former Sen. and Ernesto Maceda, Representative Benigno "Noy" Aquino Nereus Acosta, Satur Ocampo, Riza Hontiveros-Baraquel and

Heeding the organizers' call, banners out of the venue, especially those from left-leaning, prayed with priests and nuns, politicians and ordinary

The theme of unity was loudly singing of Christian song, rendition by a female emcee, rosary, an interreligious intercelebrated Mass.

The other bishops who were Lagdameo, Jose Olivio Tobias of Novaliches, Caloocan, Gabriel Reyes of Lavaras of Iba, Teodoro B. of Caloocan, and Auxiliary

Tee off with Immuvit

It's the feeling when you step out to tee off at 6 am in the morning. The moment when the head of your club is at the perfect sweet spot you know that that baby is over 250 yards. It's that perfect moment that you

feeling body will help you feel the exhilaration of that moment, so we thought about improving your

Immuvit is the complete multivitamin. Essential vitamins, minerals, Korean and Siberian ginseng will heighten your stamina and completely round off your game. Coenzyme Q10 (CoQ10), which boosts your immune system from aging and viruses will definitely give you an upper hand. Think of Immuvit as the best caddy you'll ever need.

The best gift you can give yourself this
Christmas is the feeling of that perfect shot

UPGRADE TO
IMMUVIT™

2 Ginsengs for Potency + CoQ10 for Protection + Vitamins & Minerals for Power
BOOST YOUR IMMUNE SYSTEM!

For more information, e-mail immuvit@pascualab.com
Text HOTLINE: type IMMUVIT, your messages send to 0920-9616128
Visit: www.immuvit.com

Available at all mercury drug stores and other leading drugstores nationwide



MANILA
Archbishop
Gaudencio
Cardinal Rosales
leads the
concelebrated
thanksgiving
Mass at Quirino
Grandstand.
EDWIN BACASMAS



A rally with no ba

From page A1

Jose W. Diokno, and civil libertarians Nini Quezon-Avanceña and Maring Fera.

Makati Mayor Jejomar Binay, who is closely identified with deposed President Joseph Estrada, was surrounded by burly security men.

Leftist party-list Representatives Satur Ocampo, Teddy Casiño, Liza Maza, Rissa Hontiveros and Etta Rosales came without their group's red streamers.

While the rally was going on, children ran around flying kites. Some families basked in the sun while sprawled on blankets.

The seats of Quirino Grandstand were filled by students of Catholic schools, who said they voluntarily joined the rally.

Nelly Barcelona, a 20-year-old student from the College of the Holy Spirit, said

the school students w

"We support the convention need to be said when

Other students Don Bosco Solacion C School, St College.

Although no banner group men point by co

Looking for Officials said the ral

Part of the Celebration

Sierra Madre

It's easy to get drunk during the holidays, and that's why you need Sierra Madre. Sierra Madre is a healthy, refreshing, and delicious drink that will help you stay sober and hydrated. It's the perfect drink for any occasion.

WE WELCOME DISTRIBUTORS AND DEALERS

Interested parties may come and visit us on December 27 & 28 between 8:00AM to 5:00PM. For Further Inquiries, Please Contact 09178843936 & 09175779880

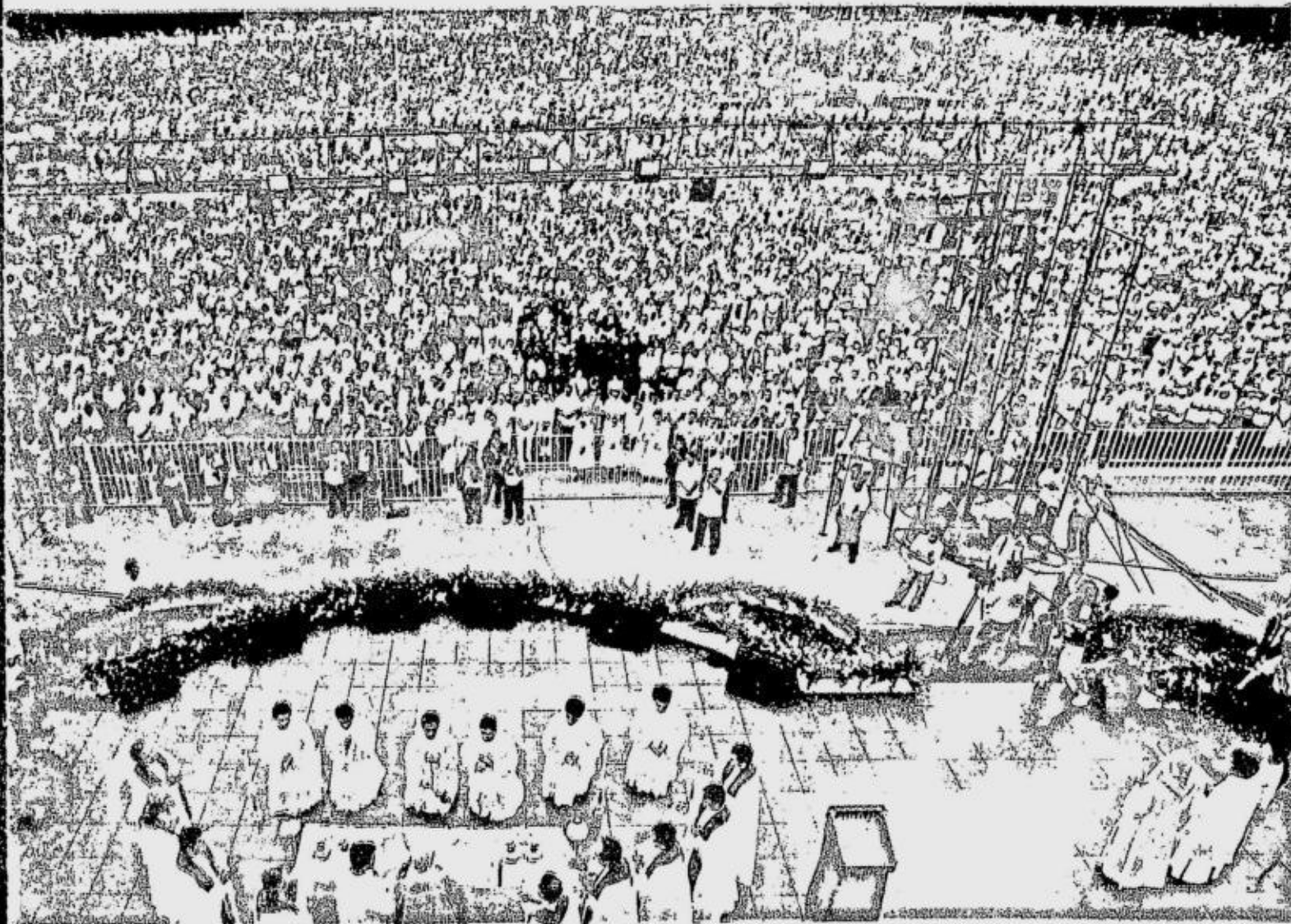
Quality Product of:

CPJ Natural Drink Co., Inc.

81 Ground Floor Pres. Tower Timog Ave., Quezon City
Tels: 415-3952 • 415-0381 Telefax: 414-1291
E-mail: sierramadre_cpj@yahoo.com.ph

AVAILABLE AT

mercury drug, SUPERMARKET, Jollibee, Walter Mart, G. GAISANO, South Star Drug, SAVE MORE DRUG, manson drug, JC Spice Corporation, SIOLAND CHAIN OF STORES, (BUTUAN CITY) C&C PHARMACY, FARMACIA FREEMAN, YANIE PHARMACY, OTIS PHARMACY, GEN USE PHARMACY, GEN MED PHARMACY, (AGUSAN DEL NORTE) GALAPIN PHARMACY, MARCON PHARMACY, (SURIGAO CITY) NICKEL DRUG, SOON AT PUREGOLD and GAISANO CAGAYAN



to Charter change, the Catholic faithful, including members of militant and religious charismatic groups, as well as anti-Arroyo politicians, heed rally at the Luneta Grandstand.

ir own," he said.
er President Aquino,
bright yellow dress
owed shortly by Sen.

lcomed by Lagdameo,
grandstand to greet
seated in designated
stage.
haddai also came and
ghout the program.
ounced that the stage
and priests and those
Mass.

s Aquilino Pimentel Jr.,
grada, Alfredo Lim and
ators Francisco Tatad
entatives Roilo Golez,
p, Francis Escudero,
mpo, Teodoro Casiño,
d Loreta Ann Rosales.
all to keep their politi-
ne, participants, espe-
ing groups, came and
s, students and teach-
citizens.
highlighted by the live-
s, spiced up by a rap
e, the praying of the
ocation, and the con-

celebrated the Mass
ros of Malolos, Anto-
oogracias Iñiguez of
Antipolo, Florentino
cani, prelate emeritus
Bishops Broderick Pa-

billo of Manila, and Pablo David and Roberto Mal-
lari of San Fernando, Pampanga.

Also well represented was the Association of Ma-
jor Religious Superiors of the Philippines and its
mission partners. The provincials (heads) of the Do-
minican and Jesuit orders were both present.

Both Rosales and Lagdameo spoke of the atmo-
sphere of joy and thanksgiving, considering that
the rally was being held a week before Christmas.

"We must avoid any feeling of triumphalism,
even of anger, hatred, bitterness because we
know we cannot achieve anything in this world of
religious, politics, business and social life without
the blessing of God," Lagdameo said.

Ms Arroyo conceded that the rally was a "peace-
ful expression of the people that their democracy is
working and their voices are being heard."

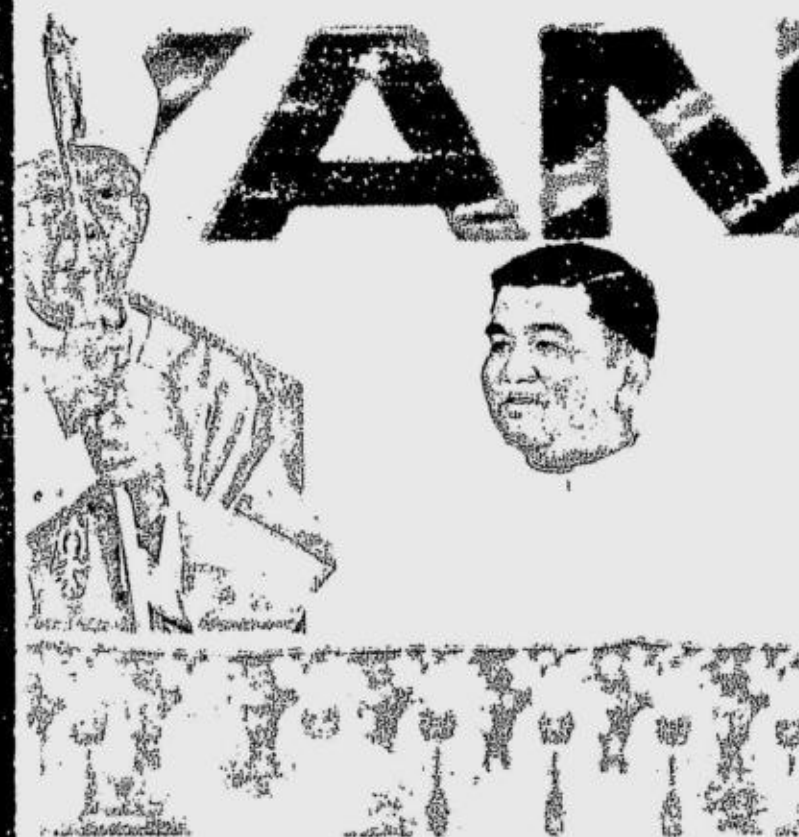
"The power of the people to take collective ac-
tion is always an inspiration and must be chan-
neled for good," she said.

She said the public should instead also pray
and volunteer for rehabilitation work in areas
ravaged recently by deadly mudslides.

Unlike in the Manila rally, some 600 protesters
in Cebu City proclaimed in their streamers their
demand for Ms Arroyo's ouster.

The protesters from the Jesus is Lord Move-
ment, Protestant and other evangelical churches
and militant groups, held a prayer service asking
for the "enlightenment" of Ms Arroyo and her al-
lies in Congress.

Around 500 farmers and workers staged a rally
in Calamba City. Protest actions were also held in
Cavite and Quezon provinces. *With reports from
Fe Zamora, Alcuin Papa, Christine Avendaño,
Jolene Bulambot, Inquirer Visayas and
Bernadette Parco/Cebu Daily News; Niña
Catherine Calleja and Romulo O. Ponte, Inquir-
er Southern Luzon and AFP*



unners, streamers

organized buses to bring the
to wanted to join.
port Con-con (constitutional
, but not in haste. The people
educated about it first," she
asked why she came.

chools represented included
Holy Trinity College, La Con-
college, St. Anthony, Manresa
Paul College and World City

they observed the rule that
would be displayed, militant
bers still tried to make their
ning in red shirts.

or troublemakers

of the Manila Police District
y was "generally peaceful."

Senior Supt. Danilo Abarzosa, chief of
the MPD, and Chief Insp. Carlito Valen-
zuela said the crowd numbered 8,000 to
10,000 at around 4 p.m. A policeman as-
signed in the area said the crowd peaked
later at 30,000.

Valenzuela said hundreds of police-
men were scattered in strategic areas all
over the city, serving as roadblocks in
case some groups proceeded to Mala-
cañang.

He said policemen in plain clothes
were also deployed around the stage to
apprehend possible troublemakers.

They also looked out for individuals or
groups which might be carrying stream-
ers or banners with political messages,
but saw none. *With a report from Mur-
gaux C. Ortiz*

SANYO CCTV SECURITY SYSTEM

Digital Network Solutions

Exclusive Importer & Distributor:
New DATCHE Phils.
www.datchephils.com

Uniwell

ECR/POS for Retail, Fastfood & Restaurant System

Manila (02) 7462678
CDO (082) 722765
GenSan (053) 5528317
Iloilo/Bacolod (033) 3370410 09173256453

ABS

28 YEARS OF SERVICE

TAKE THE FUTURE

CLEANSE & CONTROL YOUR WEIGHT!

Your Inexpensive Solution To:
Overweight Problems
Hypertension
Cholesterol Problems
Diabetes
Constipation
Skin Disease
Other Health Problems

redjuice

*Deliciously healthy
clean from within*

featured on RMTV (QTV11) in the Philippines Daily Inquirer (Nov 28, 2006)

Visit us at: www.redjuice.com

We breathe hope to a nation's future

There's no other occasion when everyone comes together in pure anticipation to celebrate our Creator's love for mankind than Christmas time.

At Consolidated Industrial Gases, Inc. (CIGI), it's more than the revelry that comes with the celebration. It's the thought that we have a family to mark the season with—our customers.

As we enter a new year, CIGI reaffirms its vow to give more reasons to take delight in what life has to offer. All because we know we have you for a family.

CIGI
CONSOLIDATED INDUSTRIAL GASES, INC.

A Member of
THE LINDE GROUP

Those Who Split The Air Reshape The World

30th floor, Wynsum Corporate Plaza, 22 F. Ortigas Jr. (formerly Emerald Ave.), Ortigas Center, Pasig City, Philippines
Tel.: (632) 631 8251 - 53 Fax: (632) 914 - 1688 Email: Customer.service@cigi.com.ph Website: www.cigi.com.ph



Losing and winning

HOW'S THIS FOR A COMMENTARY ON OUR times? When our gold medalists in the recently concluded Asian Games returned home, no one from the government was at the airport to meet them. The presidential palace issued a press statement, however, saying the medalists and their fellow athletes would be feted in Malacañang sometime soon.

The contrast would not have been as stark if the latest triumphant homecoming of boxing icon Manny Pacquiao had not been so recent—or so ecstatic. Make no mistake; the world's best boxer, pound for pound, deserves his moment in history's sun (even if politicians have been transparent in their attempt to bask in the reflected sunlight).

But the country's delegates to the Asiad in Doha, Qatar—especially the four gold medalists Antonio Gabica (9-ball), Violito Payla (flyweight), Joan Tipon (bantamweight) and Rene Catalan (wushu)—deserve a warm welcome too. The least the national government could have done was to send a high public official to represent the people in homecoming rites at the airport.

Perhaps the Arroyo administration was too busy rationalizing its surrender on the issue of fast-tracked Charter change. Or perhaps the officials who are in charge of these things thought there was very little upside to the homecoming idea. Perhaps, they thought, the paucity of winners would draw attention to the medals that the country did not win.

That, however, is exactly why the government should have gone out of its way to welcome the medalists home. The first and overriding lesson of all sports competitions is that each athlete is the story; win or lose, it is the athlete who competes, with others as well as with himself. If he (or in many wonderful instances, she) does well, that is in itself a feat worth celebrating.

That our lean delegation to the Asiad won four gold medals, six silvers and nine bronzes—despite the odds, despite the glitches, despite the sorry circumstance that some of our best boxers had to share the same pair of boxing shorts—is a considerable achievement. Each of our winners, and even those who just missed stepping into the winner's circle, reminded us why we join such sports spectacles in the first place: each competition is a potential showcase of the human spirit.

Come to think of it, the official indifference was a weird echo of possibly the most famous anecdote out of the country's participation in this year's Asiad: The story about one wealthy sports patron offering his expensive Rolex watch as a prize to the first Filipino to win a gold medal in athletics, during the barren first several days of the Games. It made for an interesting anecdote, the exact sort of thing that gets passed around the dinner table. But it needs to be said: The offer was a misguided one.

When a national-caliber athlete is already at an international competition, the motivation for excelling becomes simpler—we can even say purer. It is the sheer opportunity to do one's best. In a highly competitive environment like the Asiad, it is the athlete's vocation to compete well.

The role of the coach, or the delegation official, or the sponsor is to prepare the athlete for what is accurately called the moment of truth.

Money or riches are no longer a motivation. The time to offer financial rewards is years before the event, when the athlete must create his own discipline and source his own motivations for the boring drills, the inevitable lonely hours. When Tipon said he wanted to use the P1.5 million in incentives due him from the national sports program to build his own house, we are moved by yet another stirring example of years of discipline and persistence finally, and literally, paying off.

But we can't imagine any athlete descending from the medal box to say, I did this for the Rolex!

The Arroyo administration made certain to celebrate the country's first-ever overall championship of the Southeast Asian Games a year ago, in style; the least it could have done this year was to ask a worthy representative, perhaps even Pacquiao himself, to wait on the gold medalists and welcome them on the public's behalf. That would have been a homecoming worth remembering.



People don't want to change the Constitution

WAIT A MINUTE, NOT SO FAST. ALTHOUGH the House majority has already archived the constituent assembly, we cannot relax and let our guard down. Like Frankenstein or Dracula, it can still come back from the dead and surprise us when we are not looking. Joe de Venecia's "running dogs" are still capable of tricks. One trick is to dance the Cha-cha two steps backward, one step forward.

The Con-ass was withdrawn in an attempt to reduce the size of the mammoth prayer rally against Cha-cha or have it cancelled by its organizers. All the repentant(?) statements of JDV and President Macapagal-Arroyo—that the matter of Charter change has been "put in the back burner"—were calculated to cool popular anger at the audacity of the House in violating the Constitution and all norms of ethics and morality in order to change its own rules and railroad the Con-ass through Congress. But JDV is still pushing a constitutional convention to revise the Constitution.

So let's get this straight: The people are not only against Con-ass; they are also against Cha-cha. They are against changing the Constitution.

A Social Weather Stations survey showed that two out of every three Filipinos—two-thirds of the population—will vote "No" against a new Constitution.

The message is loud and clear: the people do not want anybody to tinker with the fundamental law, period. That is why so many people showed up at the Luneta prayer rally yesterday. Thank God for the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines, El Shaddai, Jesus is Lord Movement, the Iglesia ni Cristo and other groups. Flexing their muscles, they sent the "con-asses" running with their tails between their legs. Without them, who knows what the con-asses could have done.

GMA herself said in her surrender statement that it would be the people who would have to decide when to change the Constitution. Well, the people have spoken: They don't want to change it at all.

So why are they still talking about a constitutional convention? Politicians should now abandon

As I See It

Neal H. Cruz



don all notions of a Con-con even after the 2007 elections, or even after the 2010 elections.

First of all, let's ask ourselves: Do we really have to change the whole Constitution? Or can an amendment now and then be better?

The administration had drummed into the public mind the propaganda that we need to change the Constitution, such that even some people who were opposed to Con-ass seemed to have accepted a Con-con. But that does not mean they agree wholeheartedly to changing the Constitution. Con-con is just the lesser evil, but evil nevertheless.

Aside from the Con-con being very expensive—it would cost P10 billion (imagine what P10 billion can do to reduce poverty)—it does not guarantee that it will come up with a better Constitution. The Marcos Constitution was made by a Con-con. Marcos merely bribed some of the delegates, a weakness that many current politicians are heir to.

Moreover, a Con-con will be only as good as its delegates. And in an election of delegates next year, many congressmen and local public officials whose third terms are ending will run as delegates. Others will field their relatives and political allies. We would only end up with a Con-con filled up with the politicians who tried to rape our democracy with the Con-ass—and almost succeeded.

Also, a Con-con will have a blank check on what to do with the Constitution. It can do anything with the Constitution. Very dangerous.

And it will have no deadline. It can take one year, three years, or 10 years to finish a Constitution. And considering the penchant of politicians to grandstand, the sessions would probably be wasted on endless debates on petty things—on anything, just so a delegate can

have his 15 minutes of fame. The wrangling can go on and on just so the delegates can hold on to their jobs. Thus can a Con-con keep on squeezing the taxpayers dry.

Lastly, the people have already signified that they don't want to change the Constitution, and would vote against any new one. So why waste a lot of time, money and effort on something that the people would reject anyway?

Even assuming the present Charter is not perfect (no Constitution is) and some provisions need to be amended, we can amend these and submit them, one at a time, in a plebiscite to coincide with the regular elections. No extra expense needed here.

The United States has not changed its Constitution in more than 100 years. It is still the original Charter written by the country's Founding Fathers. The amendments made on it were made one at a time. These amendments are now known as the First Amendment, the Second Amendment, etc. Even those provisions that have become obsolete, like those on the Electoral College, the Americans did not delete but made to work.

And American democracy has worked very well, making it the richest and most powerful nation in the world. If it worked for America, why would it not work for us?

But, of course, JDV and GMA do not want to just amend some provisions. They want to revise the whole Constitution so we can switch to a parliamentary form of government. JDV wants it because that is the only way he can fulfill his ambition to be the Philippines' chief executive. GMA wants it so she can cling to power and stave off another impeachment complaint in a new Congress to be elected in 2007. And the congressmen want it because it would give them untold power and riches, and enable them to perpetuate themselves in office.

The Parliament will be run by the majority party, so the passage of legislation will be faster, they say. But we have just seen what evil party rule can inflict on us. If congressmen can do that outrage they just did in a bicameral Congress, imagine what they can and will do in a unicameral Parliament.

Cheek

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros



they have in common is height.

Ditto with the Christ-child.

Rizal was above all about generosity and altruism. Mythically, he proved that—by throwing his other slippers into the river after he had lost his first one so that whoever got them would have a pair. Historically, he proved that—by dying for his beliefs in the fields of Bagumbayan, now called the Luneta, where Pagcor, milking cow of corrupt officials notably for elections, just held one activity. Though he was easily the best and brightest *indio* God put on this spot of earth, he gave up his life for his countrymen.

If GMA is generous, only Mike and Mikey Arroyo know about it. If she is altruistic, only Joe de Venecia and his minions in the House of Representatives, chiefly the Bicolanos and the Mindanaos—like the two Prosperos—know about it. At least until she did an about-face, when she realized their project was so unpopular she left all of them in a lurch. If any or all of them are the best and brightest that God has put on this spot of earth, only the third character in the Garden-of-Eden scene knows about it.

The Nativity is above all about honesty and authenticity. What is the Nativity story, as a recent movie about it reminds us? It is that God came to earth not as a powerful Roman emperor or an influential Jewish Pharisee but as a lowly son of a carpenter who kept the company of the dregs of the earth—lepers, prostitutes and plebeians. It is that God was born under circumstances not unlike the one in Infanta a couple of Christmases ago and the one in Albay today, in the vise of winter, fleeing from the murderousness of a paranoid king and left out in the cold by the contempt of innkeepers, in

the bosom of a barn made for animals. It is that Three Kings journeyed from far away bearing gifts and following a burning star which really lay not in the sky but in their hearts, which was the star of discernment, which enabled them to espy divinity in that desolation.

The Nativity story is above all a story about the all-powerful and the all-bountiful relinquishing power and wealth to give the world to understand what power and wealth really mean. Namely, that power is not what you wield with your hand, it is what you yield to in your conscience. Namely, that wealth is not what you sling before the world like scraps of meat to snarling dogs, it is what you cherish in your heart like friends or lovers. The Nativity story is not about pomp and circumstance and the external trappings of glory, it is about swaddling clothes and manglers—grand words for the impoverished articles to be found in places God forgot—and the truth and beauty to be found in that deceptive repulsiveness.

The Nativity story is about what is real and what is fake, it is about what is true and what is false, it is about what is sublime and what is petty—and the divine spark in our souls that gives us the power to tell the one from the other.

If the "as-herself" character in Kashiwahara's version of the new Jerusalem tells a story about someone willing to give up power to teach the world the real meaning of power, only they know about it. If the as-herself character in Kashiwahara's version of the new Incarnation tells a story about the divine light that enables us to separate the gold from the dross, the original from the pirated version, the authentic from the fake, only they know about it.

If I recall right, Christ's remark was, "The meek shall inherit the earth." It wasn't "The cheek shall do so."

Publisher ISAGANI YAMBOT

Editor in Chief LETTY JIMENEZ-MAGSANOC

Managing Editor JOSE MA. D. NOLASCO

Associate Editor ABELARDO S. ULANDAY

Associate Editor for Readership ROSARIO A. GARCELLANO

News Editor ARTEMIO T. ENGRACIA JR. • Chief, News Day Desk NILO B. PAUROM

Opinion Editor JORGE V. ARUTA

National Editor PERGENTINO B. BANDAYREL JR.

Senior Desk Editor JUAN V. SARMIENTO JR.

Editorial Consultant AMANDO DORONILA

Chief Photographer ERNIE U. SARMIENTO

Art & Design Director LYNETT A. VILLARIBA

Board Chairman MARIXI R. PRIETO

President ALEXANDRA PRIETO-ROMUALDEZ

Executive Vice President DAVID O. VALDES

Senior Vice President for Sales and Marketing RENATO R. REINOSO

VP for Advertising FELIPE R. OLARTE

AVP for Circulation SANDY SIMON R. YAP

Readers' Advocate LORNA KALAW TIROL

readersadvocate@inquirer.com.ph • Tel. No. 897-8808, Loc. 342

The Lance Corporal Smith case

LANCE CPL. DANIEL SMITH, CONVICTED OF rape by Judge Benjamin Pozon, is being pulled in opposite directions.

The US Embassy, for which our secretary of justice is now lawyering, wants him in the custody of the US government. Their argument is this: Since the case is still on appeal, the judicial proceedings have not yet been terminated, and by the terms of the Visiting Forces Agreement, he should be under US custody.

Judge Pozon, for his part, holds that the judicial proceedings referred to by the VFA ended with the judgment of conviction, after which the place of detention should be a matter for agreement between the US and RP governments. Ambassador Kristie Kenney, it seems, agrees; she signed an agreement to that effect. Judge Pozon, however, contends that Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez was the wrong person to enter into such an agreement.

Who is right? Let me share with you my two bits on the matter.

It is always good to begin with the text of the law itself which, in this case, is the treaty. Incidentally, I disagree with those who say that the VFA is not a treaty because it was not concurred in by the US Senate. Our Constitution only requires that, for purposes of foreign military presence in the Philippines, the agreement must be "recognized as a treaty by the other contracting party." The US government recognizes the VFA as a treaty. It is not for the Philippines to say what the American authorities should recognize as a treaty.

The answer to the controversy, therefore, must be sought in Sec. 6 and Sec. 10 of Article V of the VFA.

Sec. 6 says: "United States military authorities shall, upon formal notification by the Philippine authorities and without delay, make such personnel available to those authorities in time for any investigative or judicial proceedings relating to the offense with which the person has been charged. In extraordinary cases, the Philippine Government shall present its position to the United States Government regard-

SOUNDING BOARD

Fr. Joaquin G. Bernas, S.J.



ing custody, which the United States Government shall take into full account. In the event Philippine judicial proceedings are not completed within one year, the United States shall be relieved of any obligations under this paragraph. The one-year period will not include the time necessary to appeal. Also, the one-year period will not include any time during which scheduled trial procedures are delayed because United States authorities, after timely notification by Philippine authorities to arrange for the presence of the accused, fail to do so."

Under this section, initial custody must belong to the United States, unless in "extraordinary circumstances," the Philippines should ask for custody. The Philippines did not ask for custody during trial; hence Smith stayed in the US Embassy.

But when does US custody last? Sec. 6 also says that if "the Philippine judicial proceedings are not completed within one year" the United States shall be relieved of the responsibility to make the accused available for "investigative or judicial proceedings." The contention of the US government is that "judicial proceedings" include the period of appeal and, since the case is on appeal, the proceedings are not yet terminated. Therefore, Smith should still be enjoying the comforts of the US Embassy. Moreover, if the appeal is not terminated within the prescribed one-year period, the United States is relieved of the obligation to produce Smith.

Note that the one-year period ended—if I am not mistaken—yesterday, Dec. 17. If Smith is returned to US custody, will the United States be free to ship Smith to Okinawa? Is this what the Filipinos who negotiated the treaty and the Senate, which con-

curred in the treaty, meant? But Sec. 6 itself says that the "one-year period shall not include the time necessary to appeal"; neither will it include delay in trial procedures attributable to the United States.

When you put together all the above specifications, the implication is that the "one-year period," after which the Philippines loses the right to hold custody of the accused, applies only during the "trial period." I am sure that those who negotiated the treaty knew that while trials can be speeded up, appeals can take forever. The appeal is now with the Court of Appeals and may eventually go to the Supreme Court.

It is for this reason that Judge Pozon holds that the applicability of Sec. 6 ended with the conviction and sentencing and that the applicable provision now is Sec. 10. And what does Section 10 say? "The confinement or detention by Philippine authorities of United States personnel shall be carried out in facilities agreed on by appropriate Philippine and United States authorities. United States personnel serving sentences in the Philippines shall have the right to visits and material assistance."

There are two sentences here. The first sentence is about the agreed place of detention. The second sentence tells us what that detention is, that is, detention while "serving sentence." Smith has started serving sentence. Hence, the Philippines and the United States have to agree where he should be detained.

Judge Pozon agrees that the place of detention should be a subject of agreement. But he questions the authority of the secretary of justice to enter into this agreement which partakes of the nature of an "executive agreement." The judge must be thinking of the list of those who, under the Vienna Convention on Treaties, have the power to represent a State in agreements. Article 7 of the Vienna Convention on Treaties does not include the secretary of justice among those who have *ex officio* authority to enter into agreements.

This is crucial because a waiver of custody can mean a waiver of sovereignty.

Cha-cha train derailed, conks out

THE "HELLO GARCIA" SCANDAL MAY HAVE failed to whip up another people power. But it is very clear that the administration's brazen attempt to "desecrate" the 1987 Constitution has unleashed a political supertyphoon which has left in its wake the political landscape dominated by President Macapagal-Arroyo and her allies badly devastated.

Even the "retreat" made by Ms Arroyo and her allies in the House of Representatives has failed to calm down the tsunami of discontent that has sprung from various sectors, particularly church groups, peoples' organizations, business and civil society groups. Undeniably, the manner by which the majority members of the "House of Shame" tyrannically played to the hilt their advantage in numbers, all the more exposed the self-serving agenda behind the administration's rush to change the Constitution.

Doubtless, the best thing the administration's Cha-cha folly achieved was to unite the majority of our people into stopping the runaway "Cha-cha train." In Mindanao, for example, the now derailed "Cha-cha train" brought about the unprecedented alliance of various law groups which added voices—and warm bodies—in protests actions.

"The Arroyo administration is not credible in initiating changes in the Constitution because it is confronted with 'trust issues,'" said Caesar Europa, president of the Davao City chapter of the Integrated Bar of the Philippines (IBP). "There is a question of sincerity behind the current move to change the Constitution," he added.

Among those that have formed the alliance are the IBP, the Union of Peoples' Lawyers in Mindanao (UPLM), Bangsamoro Lawyers' Network (BLN), Free Legal Assistance Group (FLAG), Alternative Law Group (ALG), law students and law professors from Ateneo de Davao Law School, University of Mindanao Law School and Cor Jesu College.

Here are excerpts of the statements issued by some members of the alliance:

UPLM: "We see the retreat to the Con-con mode as a squid tactic, (they will) push ahead with Con-ass in their vain hope that the Supreme

KRIS-CROSSING MINDANAO

Carlos Isagani T. Zarate



Court will give its legal imprimatur on their insidious plot. But, just like the failed 'Palace Initiative' (of) the 'Singaw' ng Bayan and its disgraceful allies in the LGUs, this move will also suffer a resounding defeat!

"The Arroyo administration is so shameless in pushing ahead with this plot that it even ordered the cancellation of the Asean Summit (purportedly because) of a typhoon that, ironically, will not directly hit Cebu. Truth to tell, it is the political typhoon that surely will be covered by the international press coming here for the Asean that the Arroyo regime wants to avert."

"Her tinkering with the constitutional process is nothing but (a means) to further subvert the sovereign will of the Filipino people whom she had already robbed in the 2004 elections! This should be resisted and defeated by the people, and lawyers and legal workers should not shirk from this responsibility. We firmly believe that any move for Charter change under the Arroyo regime will only serve to institutionalize poverty, corruption, puppetry and repression. We cannot expect a meaningful amendment or revision of the 1987 Constitution under the present regime."

"The Arroyo regime's overweening stand is finally meeting head-on a counterforce with an extensive united front of sectors and leaders now standing up to say enough of this abuse of power."

BLN: "BLN condemns in the strongest possible terms the political maneuverings and blatant disregard of the law by the very institution tasked to formulate laws, i.e., the House of Representatives. While BLN is not totally against Charter change—especially if it will resolve the Min-

danao conflict and bring peace to the war-torn area of the Bangsamoro—it is totally against any move that defrauds the people and that is motivated by nothing except self-interest."

"House Resolution 197 is a shameless disregard of the law When BLN calls for the defense of the Constitution at this point, it is not to guard it from any and all moves to amend it, but only from being (used) to keep some people in power."

"The underhanded scheme is obviously a move not only to change the form of government from presidential to parliamentary, or the structure of the legislature from bicameral to unicameral, (it also) calls for the extension of the term of the present legislators until November 2007 and lifts any term limits, among others. Such does not serve the interest of the Filipino people as well as the Bangsamoro."

"To live in abject poverty, powerlessness and insecurity is not what the Bangsamoro deserves from the Philippine government. If the Constitution needs to be changed to improve the lot of the Bangsamoro and pave the way for a political solution to the age-old conflict in this southern part of the country, BLN will welcome it. But not if it is just a ploy to perpetuate the ruling elite in power at the expense of the people they claim to represent. We should not allow ourselves to be used just so that the avarice of some can be satisfied."

ALG: "The move to change the Constitution through the so-called constituent assembly is nothing but a tyranny of the House majority. This political adventurism, aptly called the House majority's Ass, is perhaps the most impertinent, if not the most putrid disregard of the rule of law, strangulating the Constitution, ostracizing the Senate and sacrificing people's interest for the selfish aim of President Macapagal-Arroyo and her cohort of legislators to perpetually stay in power."

Beware, the political storm is not yet over. Nonetheless, may I greet our readers in advance: A watchful and vigilant Merry Christmas to you all.

Comments at kar_laws@yahoo.com or karlos_z23@hotmail.com

Parameters

THE LONG VIEW

Manuel L. Quezon III



wasn't just the House of Representatives that thought it had everything worked out and, therefore, confused the tyranny of coalition majority with political will. You can list those who threw their support behind the President's call for Cha-cha and enumerate the many different ways otherwise sterling reputations have been tarnished.

The greatest enemy of their cause was themselves. This is why those formerly inclined to work things out with them ended up pitted against them. The dividing line was on whether they were for or against the President and her ruling coalition: and rightly so. It was the fundamental "issue of the day" in July 2005 and remains the unresolved crisis that afflicts our country.

The trinity of objectives announced by the President in 2005 was: a parliamentary, unicameral and federal government. The first of these proposals to fall by the wayside was federalism. Only the unicameral-parliamentary government proposal survived—and its proponents, like demented sea captains, kept running their efforts around on the shoals of the Constitution, common sense and public opinion.

Their dementia was caused by the pride of authorship. That left no room for honest debate or for compromise. What compromises there were only proved the folly of their political calculations: federalism was watered down, then dropped, alienating the non-politicians from the provinces; an insistence on unicameralism or nothing left those unconvinced of the soundness of the idea with no choice but to oppose it; and in turn, the manner in which the House recently behaved demonstrated

the perils of a parliamentary setup.

The problem with Charter change, as pursued over the past year, was that even its proponents lacked shared goals. The political considerations of the President turned out to be different, even contradictory, when compared to those of her allies in the House. Her supporters from the private sector differed on what motivated them: was Cha-cha's paramount consideration the loosening of economic provisions, or was it federalism or a parliamentary government (itself an authentic urge for a century but only among intellectuals and the barons who rule provincial fiefdoms)?

But even more crucial to their lack of success was their unwillingness to respect basic parameters that public opinion outside the corridors of power had been repeating.

Filipinos have been pretty clear about their ultimate parameter: they should retain the opportunity to directly vote for their chief executive.

A citizenry that has had a hand in electing its national leadership since 1935 can't be asked to willingly give up that right, and rightly so. No democratic people have ever given up the right to directly elect their chief executive in exchange for indirect selection by members of a legislature.

If no free people on earth have ever given up the presidential system to replace it with a parliamentary one—though parliaments have been abandoned for the presidential system—then it is unreasonable to first propose, then demand, and then attempt, to make the public abdicate that right to a bunch of politicians. Such a thing only happens when dictatorships are established and all elections of whatever kind become meaningless rituals.

Most of all, they ignored a fundamental reality in politics: you cannot have everything. Absolute victory and total surrender are the goals of warfare, not politics. Only when the present proponents of constitutional change shall have realized this, will the time be ripe for the setting aside of past differences. Only then can a frank, but mutually respectful and productive, debate resume. But not before

Will to succeed

(The following are excerpts from a speech delivered at the Rizal High School Grand Alumni Homecoming.)

HOMECOMINGS AND HIGH SCHOOL REUNIONS MUST surely top the list of the most enjoyable occasions, probably next to Christmas.

I like homecomings because they're so nice to catch up with old friends and make new ones.

Rizal High School has a proud tradition and many of your graduates are held in high esteem both here and abroad. The honorable Jovito Salonga, the late Bobbit Sanchez and former Sen. Rene Saguisag are just a few examples that personify Rizal High School's dedication to freedom, truth and justice.

Congratulations to Class 1956 and Class 1981, golden and silver jubilarians respectively, and hosts of this year's homecoming activities. I particularly wish to thank young Dennis Concepcion, who went to great lengths to invite me here.

It would be safe to say that there is at least one Rizal High School alumnus who has distinguished himself in politics, business, government or the arts.

And why not? There are so many of you. Rizal High School's 25,000-strong student population easily puts it in the Guinness Book as the world's largest school in terms of enrollment.

What an awe-inspiring sight it must be when your entire student population assembles for flag ceremony. *Para sig-uring People Power sa Edsa!*

But beyond the numbers and the individual accomplishments of your alumni, your alma mater honors the memory of Jose Rizal, the national hero who said "the preparation needed for independence is education in its broadest sense—the formation of a people who would be worthy of their freedom and would protect it from its new tyrants."

Rizal later broke away from Marcelo H. del Pilar and all the other propagandists—Mariano Ponce, Juan Luna and members of the Indios Bravos. He wanted to focus on education reform. Unfortunately, the tragedy at Bagumbayan changed all that.

Rizal would have been quite pleased with the public school system set up by the Americans. But he would have been appalled at the current achievement levels that our public schools have been turning in lately.

Today, the average Grade 6 pupil can answer correctly only half of the National Achievement Test questions.

High school students who can read—but not fully comprehend—written lesson material, whether in English or Filipino, are not uncommon.

Today's public school students are at a distinct disadvantage. So many things prevent them from realizing their full potential—too few good teachers, overcrowded classrooms, shorter class hours—all these have led to their achievement levels falling well below acceptable international standards.

I'm sure the Golden Jubilarians present today can still remember the enjoyment of exploring the creative work of literary giants like Alfred Lord Tennyson or Ka Amado Hernandez and Jose Rizal himself. But how can you expect your present-day counterparts to do the same when they have to struggle through the simple act of reading?

Making our education system relevant would directly meet this need. But under present circumstances, wouldn't this be a quixotic adventure at best?

The Education Revolution is a People Power movement, one that calls on us to focus our energies towards one goal: to help move every school community towards excellence.

Many of today's high school graduates do not have the skills, the attitude and the will to succeed that those of you in Class of 1956 and Class of 1981 had in your time.

But you—the alumni of Rizal High School—can change all that. You can launch your own Education Revolution for your beloved alma mater.

Many of you are now respected members of the community—very capable of sustaining education initiatives and positively influencing education policy. You can organize an Education Working Group from among yourselves, the Rizal High School faculty and the members of this city's vibrant business community.

Instead of simply seeking donations to acquire facilities, together you can draft a workable strategic plan that defines ways and means to help your students to be better prepared for college or for employment.

We at the Foundation for Worldwide People Power have developed a performance-based framework that can help your working group form sustainable partnerships with resource holders, based on agreed-upon academic achievement goals, such as better National Achievement Test results. We'd be very happy to share these with you.

In his essay simply titled "Instruction," Jose Rizal declared that the mission of education is "to elevate the country to the highest seat of glory and to develop the people's mentality."

Rizal further argued, "Since education is the foundation of society and a prerequisite for social progress, only through education could the country be saved from domination."

Finally, Rizal reminds us that "It is a useless life that is not consecrated to a great ideal. It is like a stone wasted on the field without becoming a part of any edifice."

Rizal would be very pleased if you honored him by making Rizal High School a paragon of academic excellence through the Education Revolution.

Eugenia Duran Apostol is the board chair of the Foundation for Worldwide People Power.

THEY SAID

Without shame

"I am completely appalled by your collective gall. You are totally bereft of principles, that's why you are without shame."

—Renato Constantino Jr. to Speaker Jose de Venecia and other pro-Charter change House leaders in a press conference

If only

"He's so young. He's almost my age. I'm not going to be a hypocrite—I do pity him. If only he never did what he did to me, if he didn't abuse me, we wouldn't be in this situation."

—"Nicole" on 21-year-old Lance Cpl. Daniel Smith, a day after he was convicted of raping her

The INQUIRER is a member of the

PHILIPPINE PRESS INSTITUTE

The National Association of Philippine Newspapers



Taos-pusong pagtulong hañid ng Honda...

Buong-pusong pinapatupad ng **Honda Philippines, Inc.** ang kanilang programa na naglalayong tulungan ang mga nasalanta ng sakuna tulad ng bagyong "REMING".



Acrangkada na ang caravan sa mga lugar na ito:

CAMARINES SUR
• NAGA CITY
Dec. 18

ALBAY

• LEGAZPI
Dec. 12
• DARAGA
Dec. 14
• LIGAO
Dec. 15
• TABACO
Dec. 16

SORSOGON
• SORSOGON
Dec. 13

MASBATE
Dec. 14

**HONDA**

Cares
REMING AFTERMATH
Service Caravan 2

DECEMBER 12-18, 2006

Registration starts 8:30 AM

Para sa mga **Honda Motorcycles** customers na nasalanta ng bagsik ng bagyong "REMING", magsasagawa ang **Honda Philippines, Inc.** ng isang reachout program sa **Region V** upang tulungan silang kumpunihin ang mga nasirang Honda motorcycles.

In cooperation with: **Monacor, Cinemar Trader, Motortrade Topline, Honda Prestige, Inc., Hitech**

FREE Check-Up Maintenance Checkup Change Oil Labor
First come, first served.

For inquiries call the Honda Toll Free Hotline: **1-800-10-HONDAPH or (02)581-6799**

EOS DIGITAL

Canon
Delighting You Always

A thing of beauty can be captured in so many ways.



EF 20mm f/2.8 USM	P24,000	EF 70-300mm f/4.5-5.6 DO IS USM	P 67,500
EF 28mm f/1.8 USM	P24,000	EF 90-300mm f/4.5-5.6 USM	P 9,950
EF 50mm f/1.8 II	P 4,500	EF 100-400mm f/4.5-5.6 L IS USM	P 85,000
EF 50mm f/1.2 L USM	P75,950	TS-E 45mm f/2.8 Tilt-Shift	P 65,000
EF 15mm f/2.8 Fisheye	P36,500	EF 24-70 f/2.8 L USM	P 67,500
EF 180mm f/3.5 Macro L USM	P77,000	EF-S 60mm f/2.8 Macro USM	P 20,200
EF 17-85mm f/4-5.6 IS USM	P31,000	EF 200mm f/2.8 L USM II	P 39,950
EF 28-105mm f/4-5.6 USM II	P11,300	EF 300mm f/2.8 L IS USM	P250,000
EF 75-300mm f/4-5.5 IS USM	P 9,900	EF 400mm f/4.0 DO IS USM	P320,000

Canon Marketing (Philippines), Inc. 2/F Marvin Plaza, 2153 Don Chino Rocas Ave. cor. V.A. Rufino St., Makati City
Tel: 884 9000 Fax: 810 9797 E-mail: info@canon.com.ph or www.canon.com.ph



Insist on a local warranty from Canon Marketing Phils. Look for this sticker on the camera box to avail of one (1) year warranty on service and parts.

On blaming rape victims

WE THANK THE INQUIRER FOR THE EDITORIAL underscoring rape as a crime premised on power. (PDI, 12/2/06) Inequality breeds injustice, which whets the thirst of individuals and entities for power and control, the very root of violence. In a society so divided between those who wield power and those who have been denied it, violence is almost accepted as normal, if not a condition for coexistence. But the media can change this perception through consistent exhortation to challenge conventional wisdom, authority and values that reinforce injustice.

I was stunned by Archbishop Oscar Cruz's statement made after the conviction of Nicole's rapist, that women should "not flaunt" their womanhood by appearing "cheap and practically inviting to be violated by men." Women have every right to dress however they please, just as males do. Dressing is an aesthetic expression. A woman's body is her own territory, her first medium for asserting her individuality and independence. It certainly is not an invitation to sexual abuse. If there are those who believe otherwise, it is because of the beliefs instilled in us, all in the name of power and control, throughout our colorful history.

Indeed, the rape of Nicole focuses on RP-US relations. More broadly, it brings to light the inequality of the genders.

Nicole's rapist took advantage of his size and privilege when he forced himself on her and afterward tossed her out in the street like a dirty, unwanted rag. He didn't lose control, but rather took control of the situation. He

knew he was committing a criminal act but, like every abuser, believed he could get away with it.

The good news is that we can change attitudes and behaviors through education, starting with the media.

In the global anti-violence movement, we reach out to every sector to promote healthy societies by introspection, making changes in our behaviors and lifestyles to foster better relations with our intimate partners, our family members, our co-workers and employees, our neighbors and the community at large.

It takes a community to prevent and end abuse and violence, starting with us individuals. There is no excuse for abuse, and those who are to blame for it are the perpetrators, indifferent bystanders and the establishment sectors that squander the opportunity to effect social change.

No one but the perpetrator can change his/her ways, especially not the partner silently suffering out of a sense of duty and obligation. Until we understand the dynamics of abuse, we will be blaming victims, protecting abusers and indulging violence and oppression. Let's opt for the alternative.

—CHERIE M. QUEROL MORENO,
community outreach coordinator,
Community Overcoming Relationship Abuse
(Cora), PO Box 5090, San Mateo, CA 94010

It's a small leak, issue blown out of proportion

THIS IS IN REACTION TO THE EDITORIAL which made mention of the leak at the Cebu International Convention Center (CICC). (PDI, 12/11/06) I think the issue is being blown out of proportion.

To put everything in perspective: The CICC has a footprint of more than 8,000 square meters, and a floor area of over two hectares. The leak that has made it to the front pages, editorials and opinion columns of newspapers had a diameter of less than one-half centimeter.

The CICC was constructed in the driest of seasons. As any civil engineer will tell you, nobody can really be 100-percent sure whether

or not a building leaks until it rains.

I am quite sure the INQUIRER knows this. When Inquirer Cebu moved the Cebu Daily News and other departments to its new building at the North Reclamation Area in Cebu City, CDN officials and personnel never really knew that the building leaked until after a heavy downpour. That leak damaged the computer of one of the daily's reporters, Kathy Navarro.

—PABLO JOHN GARCIA,
consultant on information, organization
and management, Office of the Governor,
Province of Cebu

Politicians are shameless parasites

I AM DISTURBED BY THE apparent lack of compassion being shown by the majority members of the House of Representatives to the plight of the Bicolanos after super typhoon Reming. Instead of spearheading a nationwide effort to alleviate the misery and suffering of the Bicolanos, these so-called "representatives" of the people chose to fill their hands with the issue of Charter change for the purpose of extending their terms of office.

Worse, they are doing it under legally dubious circumstances. It's all about the politics of greed. In their desperate attempt to hold on to power, our "representatives" have forgotten that they were elected to serve the people and not to enrich themselves.

Just recently, a controversy

erupted in Bicol regarding the attempts of some politicians to make themselves "visible" among Reming's most unfortunate victims in preparation for their candidacy in the 2007 elections. It was a shameless politicking, taking advantage of people's miseries.

A friend of mine calls politicians "Lacoste" because of the brand's crocodile emblem. I disagree with him. That is too classy a name for the kind of creatures our politicians are. They should be called "kuto" or "garapata" instead. Shameless parasites that feed on people's sweat and blood, that's what they really are.

—PRIMO PAGADUAN
ALONZO II,
National Prosecution Service,
Department of Justice, Manila

Listen to our people, stop Cha-cha

IT IS CLEAR THAT MOST FILIPINOS are sick and tired of too much politics. Small wonder, many of our countrymen expressed their indignation when the administration's allies in the House of Representatives rushed a resolution convening a "Senate-less" constituent assembly.

I'm so glad that Senate President Manuel Villar and the senators decided not to take part in the House's shameless charade. Everybody knows that Charter change proponents wanted to convene Congress as a Con-ass because they wanted to delete the existing constitutional provision limiting the

terms of elected officials.

It is time for administration congressmen to accept that they have lost in their bid for Charter change. The Supreme Court has rejected their "people's" initiative petition, and the Filipino people, in anger, have shot down the Con-ass. The congressmen should now turn their attention to the more pressing needs of our people.

It is time that the Cha-cha engineers abandoned their Cha-cha train. They should listen to our people.

—WILLIE C. HERNANDEZ,
108 Yap St., South Sanitary Camp,
Baguio City 2600

Reason behind RP's poor image

THIS IS A REACTION TO MICHAEL Tan's column titled "Pedigrees." (PDI, 12/01/06) Young overseas Filipinos sometimes assume the so-called "ethnic forgery" not because of poor Filipino ancestry but because of the low world stature of the Philippines today. Whether one comes from a poor village or an affluent subdivision, a Filipino traveler is eyed with a sense of "How could you afford an overseas trip? You must be a politician on a junket or a lotto winner."

This is not colonial mentality but a reality check. There are hundreds and thousands of Filipino maids and unskilled workers all over the world today such that a Filipino traveler is lucky not to be taken for one of them. Of course, there is nothing wrong with being maids and unskilled workers, but the point is, we are all bundled in the same class just by being Filipinos. (Not the Japanese or Chinese, though.)

Filipinos who remain in the country do not experience this, those who travel deal with this every now and then, but overseas

Filipinos live with this every day of their lives.

Try as the parents might to inculcate in their children the Filipinos' rich values, heritage and tradition, there are many negative reports about the Philippines that it is a daunting task. Such that there is a need for a publication called Good News Philippines. We never give up to cultivate Philippine pride among our youth. The global Filipinos are in the right track.

The irony is that many opinion writers, like former Supreme Court Justice Isagani Cruz and, occasionally, Tan and Conrado Quiros, continue to denigrate, exclude and suspect overseas Filipinos. What is inimical to the interests of the Philippines when Filipinos of dual citizenship reach out and help Filipinos, motivated by their pride in the Philippines?

Are overseas Filipinos being made scapegoats? Yet, we continue to air our voices loud and clear the world over—"Pinoy power!"

—JESS DIAZ,
jess@diazlawyers.com

GMA vows capture of killers of Abra lawmaker

From page A1

"We share the concern of the public over such brazen acts of lawlessness and we expect the authorities to redouble their efforts to prevent and solve these heinous crimes."

The 62-year-old Bersamin and his police bodyguard, SPO1 Adelfo Ortega, 49, were killed by two gunmen on Saturday. He had just attended the wedding of his niece at Mt. Carmel Church on Doña Juana Rodriguez (formerly Broadway) Avenue in Quezon City and was walking back to his van when he was attacked.

Also hurt in the shooting were Allan Sawadan, 34, Bersamin's driver, who reportedly engaged the suspects in a shootout, and Rolly Boy Cabaja, 13, who was hit by a stray bullet.

Police have come up with a composite sketch of one of the gunmen but are cross-checking it with eyewitnesses before releasing it, said Senior Supt. Magtanggol Gatdula, city police director.

"We still can't say what the motive was," Gatdula said. But Chief Insp. Clemente Barcena Jr. said it was "most likely" political.

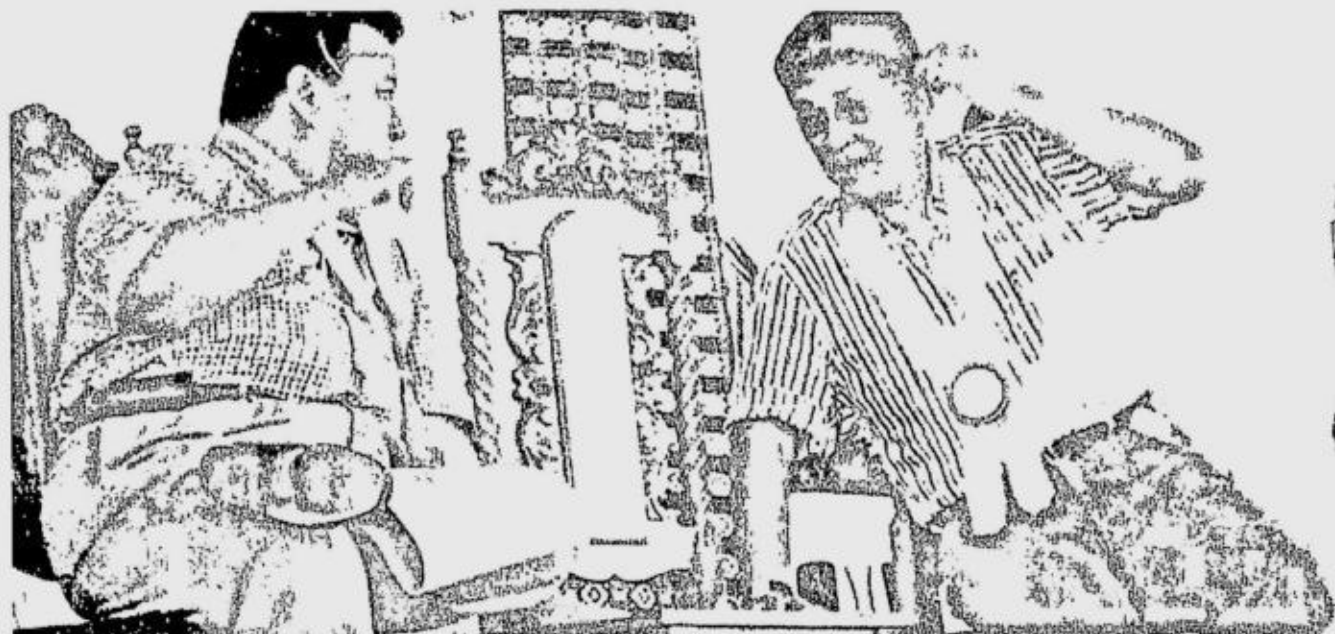
Motorcycle found

The red motorcycle believed used by the killers was found on Aurora Boulevard and Balet Drive in the New Manila area where Mt. Carmel is located. A white long-sleeved shirt with vertical green and red stripes was recovered two meters from the motorcycle.

Presidential political adviser Gabriel Claudio expressed the hope that the killing of Bersamin did not indicate a violent campaign for the May 2007 polls.

Two other congressmen, both allies of the Arroyo administration, came under attack last week. Officials say there was a plot to assassinate House Majority Leader Prospero Nograles, while Rep. Robert Jaworski Jr., escaped an apparent attempt on his life last week when his car was blown up.

"I'm hoping there will be no escalation of politically related or motivated violence," Claudio said in a phone interview. "The sooner this crime is solved, the better and stronger will be



ABRA'S top politicians, Rep. Chito Bersamin (left)—who was gunned down in Quezon City on Saturday—and Gov. Vicente Valera, during happier times.

FRANK CIMATU/INQUIRER NORTHERN LUZON

our prospect for a peaceful and orderly elections."

Foretaste of 2007 polls

Senate Minority Leader Aquilino Pimentel Jr. said recent incidents, including the killing of the son of Apalit Mayor Tirso Lacanilao, the Jaworski case and the murder of Bersamin were a "violent foretaste of heated political race in 2007 stoked by an uncaring President."

Pimentel said the killings of politicians were symptomatic of the breakdown of law and order in the country as a result of the government's inability to crack the killings of Leftist militants and journalists.

"The President is the chief law enforcer. That's why the President would have to be responsible for it somehow," he said.

Last week, Pimentel took the floor to press authorities to solve the killing of Assistant Solicitor General Nestor Balloccillo, 57, and his son, Benedict Paul, 22, who were gunned down while waiting for a public transport near their house in Sucat, Parañaque City, last week.

Too early for politics

"It's too early to attribute it to politics," said Commis-

sion on Elections Chair Benjamin Abalos.

"For all you know, it could be an old grudge. There could be other reasons," Abalos said of the recent spate of killings involving politicians.

Bersamin's niece Pia said the men who killed her uncle right after her wedding "sold their soul to the devil."

"They did not respect the sanctity of the celebration and the place. They did not only want to destroy my uncle, they wanted to make my family grieve during a joyous celebration. They will pay for this some other time in some other way," she said.

"We don't want revenge. There will be no violence that will come from our family. We are a Christian family and we fear the Lord," she said. With reports from DJ Yap, Alcuin Papa, Leila B. Salaverria, Michael Lim Ubac and TJ Burgonio

HEALTHY CHOICE FOR A HEALTHY LIFESTYLE

LAGUNDI TEA

For ASTHMA and RHEUMATISM to help ease respiratory and rheumatic problems.



OXY-GEN BREATHING KIT

The Ideal Breathing Kit for Indoor and Outdoor Use



PORTABLE TYPE

With OXYGEN REGULATOR, NASAL CANNULA, ADULT MASK, 3-IN-1 STROLLER BAG, MEDICAL OXYGEN TANK (20 lbs. CAP)



MOBILE TYPE

WITH OXYGEN REGULATOR, NASAL CANNULA, ADULT MASK, COMPLETE WITH TROLLEY, MEDICAL OXYGEN TANK (15 lbs. CAP)

ANTI-STRESS
RELIEVES BREATHING DISCOMFORT
HANGOVER
IDEAL FOR SPORTS
ENERGY BOOSTER
LONG DISTANCE DRIVING

OXYCAN
Oxygen in a can!

medical center trading corporation

Primer St., Cor. Shaw Blvd., Pasig City
Tel. 631-1715/631-9355/637-9584 / Fax (632) 631-7869 / E-mail Address: medcen@info.com.ph

Philly City (02) 631-1715 Manila City (02) 711-8374 Urdaneta City (053) 924-2301 Davao City (082) 222-4102 Iloilo City (033) 395-1413 Lipa City (0438) 104-31 Pangasinan (0937) 301-7396 Pangasinan (0937) 301-7396 Naga City (054) 473-8150 Cebu Branch (032) 463-7912

Available in all **mercury drug** Store Nationwide

Solon had planned to run for governor

From page A1

lice official. "That was his leadership style."

But in his last interview with the INQUIRER in November, Bersamin said he had resolved to run for governor in next year's elections.

This would have severed his 19-year political alliance with Gov. Vicente Valera whom he would face in the balloting, something he avoided in 2004, fearing bloodshed.

Abra has a history of political violence and warlordism.

On Sept. 24, 2004, the Philippine National Police created Task Force Abra to dismantle armed groups employed by politicians in the province.

In the last five years, three Abra mayors—Jose Segundo de Tubo, Clarence Benwarens of Tingue and Marc Ysrael Bernos of La Paz—had been killed by suspected political assassins and communist rebels.

Last month, Board Member James Bersamin, the legislator's relative, was shot dead at the Bangued town plaza.

The cases remain unsolved.

Approachable

Bersamin, according to his friends and colleagues, was known for his charisma and friendliness.

"You can approach him anytime ... He would entertain you even in the middle of a meal or even if you come in slippers," the police official said.

Abrenians did not have to go through channels when they needed his help and could approach him without need of an appointment, his friends and colleagues said.

Earlier in his political career, Bersamin, born to Dr. Luis Bersamin Sr. and teacher Rosario Purugganan on March 15, 1944, showed that he could rule with an iron fist.

A commerce and psychology graduate, Bersamin was elected mayor of the capital town of

Bangued in 1988 and served until 1998.

Disciplinarian

He was a disciplinarian who did not tolerate drunks and robbers.

"If you were locked out of the house or if you were too lazy to go home, you could actually sleep in a tricycle parked by the street and still be in one piece the following day. Bangued was a safe place during his time," said Joselito Bigornia of radio station dzPA.

For one whose experiences focused solely on banking, Bersamin proved he could deal with crimes in Bangued, the former police official said.

"He was hands-on in the implementation of peace and order," he said.

Bigornia said Bersamin would stay up late with police investigators to help them solve crimes.

Cockfight aficionado

Since Bersamin had a sharp memory for names and faces, he would call on political leaders from the areas where crimes happened so he could get possible leads and background information on suspects, Bigornia said.

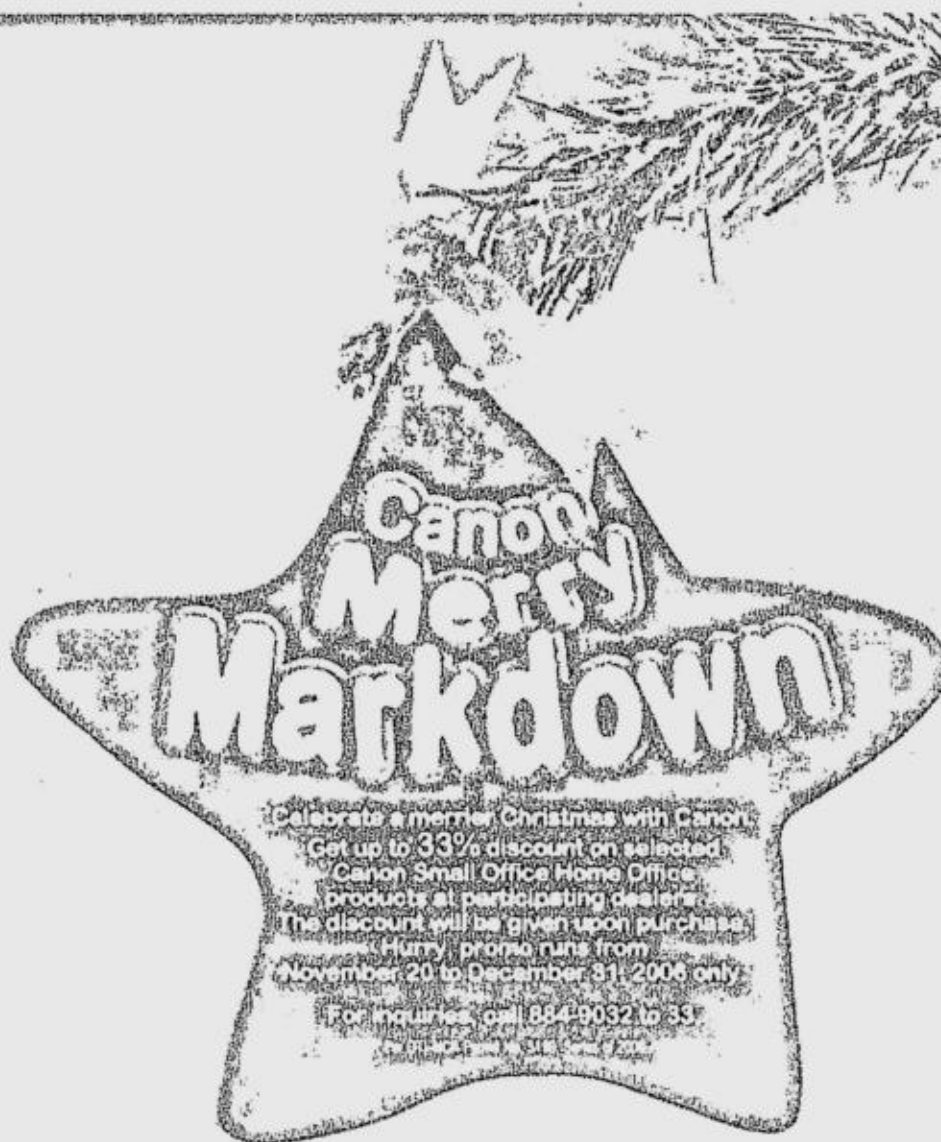
Pura Sumangil, chair of the Concerned Citizens of Abra for Good Government, said Bangued was more secure when Bersamin was mayor. Bersamin honored the native way of either paying the aggrieved or sanctioning the attacker in order to resolve disputes.

Bersamin's father was Abra governor from 1947 to 1948. His first taste of politics was as acting mayor in 1987. Before that, he was manager of the Allied Bank branch in Bangued.

He was also a cock breeder and cockfighting aficionado. But he was not known to play high stakes or take risks in the cockpit. He knew when to stop and shared his winnings. It was the same way he played politics.

Canon

Delighting You Always



IR177 Now 21% off	B820/822 Now 18% off	L220 Now 30% off	L295 Now 30% off	L120 Now 31% off
L380 Now 31% off	MF3222 Now 32% off	ICMF5630 Now 31% off	MF5750 Now 31% off	MF5770 Now 31% off
				MF8180C Now 31% off

Provincial Branches: La Union Branch: ...
Davao Branch: ...
Iloilo Branch: ...
Lipa Branch: ...
Pangasinan Branch: ...
Naga Branch: ...
Cebu Branch: ...
Pasadena Technologies: ...
Next Wave Communication Inc.: ...
Tetra Technologies Inc.: ...
Solutions Inc.: ...

Business can be simple

Canon Marketing (Philippines), Inc.

Marvin Plaza, 2153 Don Chino Rocas Avenue cor. V.A. Rufino St., Makati City Tel.: 894-9009 • Fax: 894-4174 • info@canon.com.ph • www.canon.com.ph

NORTHERN LUZON BUREAU
Room 201, Bonuan Apartelle
10 Happy Glen Loop, Baguio City
Tel. No. (074)443-9255
Fax No. (074)443-8971
E-mail: inq_baguio@inquirer.com.ph

SOUTHERN LUZON BUREAU
2nd Floor, Los Baños Bldg.
Cor. Peñaranda and Aguinaldo Sts.
Legazpi City
Telefax No. (052) 480-4182
E-mail: inq_bicol@inquirer.com.ph

E-mail: pr_provincial_news@inquirer.com.ph

VISAYAS BUREAU
c/o Cebu Daily News
18-15 Escario St., Cebu City
Tel. Nos. (032) 233-0346/233-0349
Fax No. (032) 232-9938
E-mail: inq_cebu@inquirer.com.ph

MINDANAO BUREAU
FEP Printing Corp. Bldg.
Ma-a Road, Davao City
Tel. No. (082)244-1770 to 71
Fax No. (082)244-1771
E-mail: inq_davao@inquirer.com.ph

Text us your feedback: Inquirer atn name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart) Assistant Editor Tony Bergonia

Across the NATION

10 MILF rebs dead in clash, Army says

PARANG, MAGUINDANAO—GOVERNMENT SECURITY forces and Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) guerrillas clashed in a remote village of Maguindanao town, leaving 10 rebels dead and a soldier wounded, according to Sixth Infantry Division spokesperson Lt. Col. Julieto Ando.

About 100 rebels under commander Maestro Baguindar of MILF's 105th Command ambushed the convoy of Col. Danilo Garcia, commander of 604th Infantry Brigade when he visited operatives of 75th Infantry Battalion in Barangay Melib in Rajah Buayan town on Dec. 15, Ando told the INQUIRER on Sunday.

"The soldiers retaliated by using mortars. Ten rebels were killed in the pursuit operation. The bodies were recovered. Garcia survived unhurt but one civilian and his escort was wounded," Ando said. "We have filed a protest for the rebels' violation of our ceasefire agreement, he added.

He identified the wounded soldier as T/Sgt. Jose Rebas.

He said the rebels also attacked the position of the Bravo Company of the

75th Infantry Battalion, triggering a 30-minute firefight.

On Dec. 14, he said about 150 rebels under Commander Sainudin Felmin of MILF's 105th Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces opened fire on the position of militiamen in Sitio Damabago in the same village.

"This is not about family feud. We doubt if they are really sincere in talking peace with government. They have been attacking our position in previous years. And now they are doing it again," Ando stressed.

"This is something to look into by the MILF's leadership so that it will not happen again. If they will say the bottom line here is *rido*, many will die. We continue in the active defense and we support the peace talks. But [if] they attack us, we

have to defend ourselves," he added.

MILF spokesperson Eid Kabalu confirmed that 10 of their forces were killed in the encounter but denied they attacked Garcia's convoy.

"We did not ambush the military. It was our troops being attacked. It's purely family feud. We did not violate our ceasefire agreement," Kabalu said.

He said involved in the fighting was municipal councilor Buca Badal, militiamen and rebels in the area.

Ando insisted that the rebels attacked their position.

He said the fighting only subsided when members of the International Monitoring Team and Coordinating Committee on Cessation of Hostilities intervened.

The government and MILF have been negotiating a peace agreement for several months, declaring many times to be close to a positive solution.

But the peace talks recently bogged down over MILF's demand to include close to 1,000 villages as part of their proposed future homeland without a referendum. *Jeffrey Maitem, Inquirer Mindanao*



WAITING FOR RELIEF

An Air Force soldier based in Iloilo City waits for an order to distribute relief goods to the victims of Typhoon Seniang in Aklan, Antique and Capiz.

ARNOLD ALMACEIN/INQUIRER VISAYAS

Century-old image stolen from church

DAGUPAN CITY—A CENTURY-OLD WOODEN image of the Virgin Mary was stolen from the Catholic Church in Labrador, Pangasinan, on Wednesday.

Fr. Jim Sjeehy, Labrador parish priest, said he discovered the wooden image missing when he opened the church for the first Mass at 5:30 a.m. He said the thieves also took the ivory head and hands of another image of the Virgin Mary in the church.

"The thieves may have come early dawn when we were deep in our sleep," Sjeehy, an Irish Columban priest, said. "This could have only been done by people who are selfish and who do not fear God."

The stolen Virgin Mary image is about half a meter tall and made of hardwood while the other image was about a meter tall.

"Marian devotees here had told me that [the image has] been in this church for more than 100 years now," Sjeehy said.

He said the other image, whose head and hands were missing, was just taken by its owner to the church on Tuesday in prepara-

tion for the traditional midnight Mass on Dec. 16.

Sjeehy said parishioners took to the streets on Wednesday when news broke out about the robbery. "They were so mad that they threatened to hold a rally to pressure the town government to [arrest] the robbers and seek the immediate return of the images," he said.

"They cannot believe that this incident took place under the very noses of those who are supposed to protect us," Sjeehy said.

The town hall, where the police station is also located, is across the church.

Mayor Ernesto Acain said the police were pursuing every lead that they had received.

"It may have been a case of sabotage because Father Sjeehy has had enemies," he said. "If it was robbery, then why was it that only those two images were taken? There are other images in the church that are more expensive."

Gabriel Cardinoza, Inquirer Northern Luzon

Batangas vendors rally over space

BATANGAS CITY—TENSION ENSUED HERE yesterday after about 100 vendors barricaded the streets near the Philippine Ports Authority (PPA) Passenger Terminal in Batangas Port in Barangay Sta. Clara, demanding that port authorities allow them to sell their food items at the terminal.

PPA police station commander Major Ike Peregrino said the vendors gathered in front of the port's main gate at 12:15 p.m., blocking passengers and buses that were entering the terminal vicinity.

About seven cause-oriented groups, which included the Bagong Alyansang Makabayan, participated in the vendors' rally.

The passengers had to ride on an Asian Terminal Inc. shuttle bus to enter the terminal, according to Peregrino.

Others gained access through various port gates.

He said the protesting vendors were ambulant ones, who are not allowed to sell their items at the Terminal 3 beside the Port Livelihood Center.

The vendors wanted the PPA authorities to give them a space at the terminal, which is occupied by large food chain stores.

Protesters later threw plastic bottles and newspapers at the police authorities, prompting the law enforcers to negotiate with their leaders, Peregrino said.

Steel fences separated police and the

demonstrators amid the tension.

Police troops from Maritime, Batangas City and Batangas police offices were deployed to man the hour-long rally.

By 1:15 p.m., the vendors agreed to peacefully disperse after police negotiations succeeded, according to Peregrino.

Nobody was hurt in the rally forces, he said.

Peregrino disclosed that the rallying vendors belonged to thousands of port settlers in Sta. Clara who were ejected from their homes at the height of port expansion projects in 1994.

They now live in a relocation site at Barangay Puyo.

Peregrino said they have advised the vendors to discuss their concerns with PPA manager Alex Cruz, who is currently abroad.

The PPA earlier built and managed a livelihood center in 2003 to provide vendors stall spaces.

The center was later transferred to the provincial government's authority.

The vendors, headed by former village chief Thelma Maranan, complained of the high rental fee of P100 per day, which forced them to go ambulant.

The province decided to convert the center into a parking area for port passengers, which drew the vendors' ire.

Marlon Alexander Luistro, Inquirer Southern Luzon

OWN YOUR UNIT AT
DIRECT COST and SAVE 40 %

THE *Sapphire* RESIDENCES
31ST STREET CORNER 2ND AVENUE

5TH BUILD TO OWN TOWER
FORT BONIFACIO GLOBAL CITY

BUILDING HOMES AT DIRECT COST



PIONEER OF THE
BUILD TO OWN
SYSTEM

G&W ARCHITECTS & ENGINEERS
PROJECT DEVELOPMENT CONSULTANTS & PROJECT INITIATORS

816-7683 TO 84 / 818-3774 / 0917-871-0010

2/F BONIFACIO STOPOVER PLAZA, BONIFACIO GLOBAL CITY, TAGUIG CITY

LOCAL SANTA SLEIGHS

A Christmas decoration installed at the Welcome Park in Laoag City, Ilocos Norte, shows Santa riding in a sleigh, a *karetela* made out of rice stocks, pulled by horses instead of reindeer.

TOOTS SOBERANO/INQUIRER NORTHERN LUZON



GMA effigy forces PMA band to skip Christmas parade

By Desiree Caluza
Inquirer Northern Luzon

BAGUIO CITY—AN EFFIGY OF PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo prompted the Philippine Military Academy band to pull out of the annual "Pasiklaban" parade of the University of the Philippines Baguio on Friday.

An official of the UP Baguio student council said the band chose not to join the parade, a traditional Christmas activity for the university, when the students refused to remove the effigy before the parade started at about 6 p.m.

The four-foot effigy, clad in a white gown and carrying a rifle, was carried through the downtown area and accompanied by banners criticizing the Arroyo administration's efforts to change the 1987 Constitution.

Ben Ibarra Fernandez, president of the UP Baguio student council, said that aside from the effigy, the PMA band members asked the students to stop waving the flags of militant student groups Anak-

bayán and the League of Filipino Students (LFS).

Fernandez said the band presented these conditions in joining the parade. But students and some teachers refused to give in.

Fernandez said Prof. Anavic Bagamaspad, director for student affairs, defended the students' position.

He said Bagamaspad had told the PMA band that it could not stop Anakbayan and LFS from displaying and waving their flags during the parade since both groups are legitimate student organizations recognized by the university.

"We all know that flags and effigies are a UP thing. We did not antagonize the PMA; in fact we understood it. [Its members'] only concern was that it should not be identified with [the anti-administration effigy] while wearing their uniforms. What happened was a graceful [exit]," Fernandez told the INQUIRER in a telephone interview on Saturday.

The students cheered after the PMA band left.

PMA superintendent Maj. Gen. Leopoldo Maligalig said he and UP Baguio chancellor Priscilla Macansantos eventually decided to pull out the band from the parade after the students held their ground.

"It is unlikely for the PMA to be participating in an activity criticizing the institution of the republic. We want to make it clear that there were no personalities involved. Chancellor Macansantos apologized [for] what had happened. We had to do what we had to do," Maligalig told the INQUIRER.

The Baguio City National High School band took over the PMA band's chores. The parade started at past 6 p.m. and was joined by at least 1,000 students, teachers, employees and officials of UP Baguio, who carried lanterns, flags, banners and torches.



BAGUIO students burn the effigy of President Macapagal-Arroyo during a Christmas parade on Friday.
VINCENT CABREZAIN/INQUIRER NORTHERN LUZON

ROUNDUP

Cops nab suspected drug dealer

OLONGAPO CITY—Police arrested a suspected illegal drug dealer on Friday and seized from him at least P100,000 worth of shabu (methamphetamine hydrochloride). Reports said Marion Alidin, 22, was arrested in a bus terminal in Barangay West Bajac-Bajac after he delivered 25 grams of shabu to an agent who posed as a buyer. City police chief Senior Supt. Angelito Pacia said the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency had placed Alidin under surveillance before he was arrested. Police said they were investigating Alidin's ties to an illegal drugs syndicate operating in the city.

Allan Macatuno, Inquirer Central Luzon

Soldier kills soldier

BANSALAN, Davao del Sur—A soldier, who was reportedly drunk, shot and killed his comrade following a verbal tussle at their outpost in Barangay Darapuy here on Wednesday. Police said Pfc. Nagdil Alih Sahibul of the 39th Infantry Battalion surrendered after the incident. Based on investigation, Sahibul and Cpl. Romeo de la Rosa, 35, of Poticar Subdivision, Barrio Uno, Koronadal City, had an argument over a still unknown issue. Sahibul reportedly shot De la Rosa five times in the body. The victim died on the spot.

Eddie Aguirre, Inquirer Mindanao

Appeal to GSIS for loan relief

STA. CRUZ, Marinduque—Government employees and public school teachers in the province have appealed to the Government Service Insurance System to include them in its loan relief program. "We appeal to the GSIS administration to include Marinduque in its five-month moratorium on all loan repayments for GSIS members," said Sancho de la Rosa, spokesperson of the Sta. Cruz Municipal Employees Association. He said the moratorium would be most helpful in easing the financial difficulties Marinduqueños were experiencing at the moment. Successive typhoons wrought damage to homes and property in the island-province, said Giovanni Precilario, a Grade 1 teacher at the Buyabod Elementary School here. The GSIS said in a resolution that the agency would stop collections of all loan repayments of members in Albay, Camarines Sur and Catanduanes from December to April 2007.

Gerald Gene Querubin, Inquirer Southern Luzon

Suspect in slay of Japanese yields

CAMP VICENTE LIM, Laguna—A man suspected to be behind the killing of a Japanese businessman in Imus, Cavite last week turned himself in to police authorities while two of his cohorts were charged on Thursday, police said. Calabarzon police director Chief Supt. Nicasio Radovan identified the suspect as Armando Olaes, 35, of Imus town. In a text message to the INQUIRER, Radovan said the suspect sought the help of Barangay Alapan chair Tino Amman before he was turned over to the Imus municipal police. During interrogation, Radovan said the suspect owned up the robbery and killing of Toshihiro Horie, 45, last week. He said the suspect identified his cohorts as Antonio Garcia and Willy Malapit. Supt. Efrén Castro, Imus police chief, said cases of robbery with homicide had been filed against the three suspects before the Imus Prosecutor's Office. Castro said the motorcycle used by the suspects had already been recovered.

Marlon Ramos, Inquirer Southern Luzon

NPA rebels attack Sipalay village

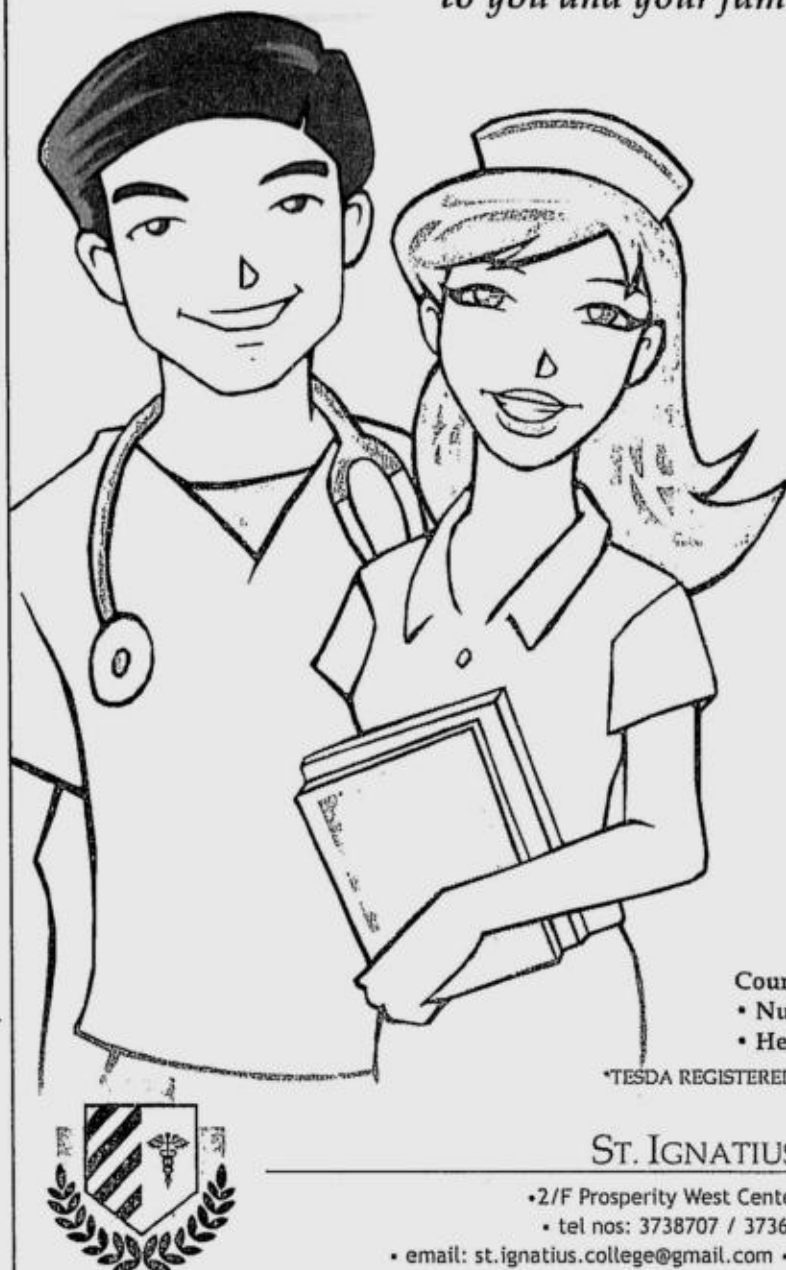
BACOLOD CITY—Communist rebels attacked a police detachment in a remote village in Sipalay City, Negros Occidental, on Tuesday night, wounding one policeman. Around 20 New People's Army (NPA) rebels tried to overrun the police detachment in Barangay San Jose, 24 kilometers from the city proper, at around 10 p.m. but were repelled by the four policemen manning the outpost, Sipalay police said. P01 Abraham Jolligan was hit in his left arm by shrapnel from an M-203 grenade, police said. Jolligan, who was brought to a hospital, said in a radio interview that the policemen engaged the rebels in a 30-minute gun battle before the rebels withdrew. He said one rebel was wounded and saw him being carried away by his comrades as they fled.

Carla Gomez, Inquirer Visayas

Start the New Year
with a New Career in Nursing!

2007

May the new year bring happiness and prosperity
to you and your family!



St. Ignatius Health Science College offers the country's pioneer two-year Nursing program. The curriculum includes a final trimester which qualified students will spend at an affiliated Nursing school in the United States, finishing as US graduates. Upon finishing the program, they will be qualified to take the NCLEX (RN), and no other examinations will be required to be licensed in all 50 states.

Start dates for 2007 batches:

- January 3, 2007
- March 1, 2007
- May 2, 2007
- July 2, 2007
- September 3, 2007
- November 5, 2007

ENROLLMENT IS ONGOING.

Payment plans and scholarships are available. Please check our website for regular updates and announcements.

Courses Offered*:

- Nursing Care Provider (2 years)
- Health Care Administrator (20 months)

*TESDA REGISTERED PROGRAMS with reg. nos. 0513060233 & 0513060234

ST. IGNATIUS HEALTH SCIENCE COLLEGE

• 2/F Prosperity West Center, 92A West Avenue, Quezon City, Philippines •

• tel nos: 3738707 / 3736623 • fax: 3758145 • mobile: (0915) 7805797 •

• email: st.ignatius.college@gmail.com • website: http://www.stignatiuscollege.com •

Transform The World

Two Adamsonians
Two different parts of the world
One passion to serve

Dr. Ruth Uy Asmundson, Ph.D.

Fr. Agustin "Gestie" Advincula, CM

An alumna of Adamson University with a BS in Chemistry (1964), Mayor Ruth Asmundson of Davis City California was selected by The Commission on Filipino Overseas as one of the recipients of the Pamana ng Pilipino Award in 2006 for excellence in work, untiring service to the Filipino people, and dedicated leadership in community initiatives that promote the common good.

Father Gestie Advincula, CM is an AB Philosophy graduate (1976). He was given a citation by Malacañang for the invaluable help he extended to Overseas Filipino Workers in war-torn Lebanon.

ADAMSON UNIVERSITY

900 San Marcelino St., Ermita 1000 Manila, Philippines
Tel. Nos.: 525-7013 • 525-9858 • Trunkline: 524-2011 Locals 129, 102, and 133 • Fax No.: 522-6556
www.adamson.edu.ph

CEBU PACIFIC AIR.COM

SEAT SALE

P99

 **Manila - Dumaguete**
Sale Period: December 13 to 20, 2006
Travel period: February 14 to March 31, 2007

 **Manila - Laoag**
Travel period: August 30 to December 31, 2006

Cebu - Bacolod
Travel period: October 2 to December 31, 2006

P999

 **Manila - Jakarta (non-stop)**
Sale Period: December 13 to 20, 2006
Travel Period: January 31 to March 31, 2007

LOWEST YEAR-ROUND COFARES

P288

Manila - Legaspi

P568

Cebu - Clark, Iloilo, Davao or Zamboanga
Davao - Zamboanga
Manila - Bacolod, Cebu, Iloilo,
Kalibo (for Boracay!), Puerto Princesa,
Roxas, Tacloban or Tagbilaran

P868

Manila - Butuan, Cagayan de Oro, Cotabato,
Davao, Dipolog, General Santos or Zamboanga

P1,499

Manila - Kuala Lumpur

P1,999

Cebu - Hong Kong
Manila - Hong Kong

P2,499

Cebu - Singapore
Davao - Hong Kong (via Cebu)
Manila - Singapore

P2,999

Davao - Singapore (via Cebu)
Manila - Bangkok

Call (02) 70-20-888
or visit the Travel Agent nearest you.

One way fares/vice versa • Limited seats • Fares may not be available on all days and flights • Fares are exclusive of applicable taxes, fees and surcharges • Promos are non-refundable

 **CEBU PACIFIC**
It's time everyone flies.



CHRISTMAS BLUES SINGERS

Two elders, who could be presumed rock star icon of their yesteryears in their own right, are caroling Christmas blues songs to Davao City residents. DENNIS JAY SANTOS/INQUIRER MINDANAO

Killing of Cavite labor leader politically motivated, says union

CALAMBA CITY—COLLEAGUES OF A SLAIN labor leader from Cavite raised doubts over local police claims that the killing was an offshoot of a business rivalry even as investigators released an artist's sketch of the alleged gunman.

In a statement sent to the INQUIRER on Thursday, the Samahan ng Manggagawa sa EMI-Independent (SM-EMI) assailed Supt. Efren Castro, police chief of Imus town, for saying that the murder of Jesus Servida was connected with the management of a canteen inside the EMI-Yazaki factory.

The union insisted that the killing was part of escalating killings of militant labor leaders in the country.

"We all know that all progressive union leaders in this country are either mercilessly killed or abducted by those who want to suppress the right of the workers to organize," the union said.

"We believe that this murder was part of the political killings in the country," the group added.

It said the murder was also linked to the foiled ambush-slaying of its former union president, Gerry Cristobal, who narrowly escaped death in April.

An intelligence agent of the Imus police office, SPO1 Romeo Lara, was the suspect in the foiled assassination of Cristobal.

"The violent killing of our comrade had nothing to do with a business rivalry as what the police claimed. We believe that his killing is related to the ambush of Gerry Cristobal," the group said.

Servida, a former vice president of the union, was shot dead by a lone assailant in front of the Japanese-owned semiconductor firm on Monday.

Two other men, including another former union member, Jowel Sale, were

wounded in the attack.

Castro said a sketch of the gunman had already been made, based on descriptions by two witnesses, including one of the factory's security guards.

He said tapes from the surveillance camera placed at the gates of the factory had also been obtained.

According to the witnesses, the killer is 5'3" to 5'4" tall and has medium build and brown complexion, Castro said.

He said the killer casually walked away after the shooting.

Castro accused SM-EMI and the Solidarity of Cavite Workers (SCW) of bloating the issue to serve their political interests.

"Of course, nobody will listen to them if we say the killing was caused by personal grudge. These groups want to draw national attention, they want to make it appear that Servida was a labor leader for propaganda," he said in a phone interview.

Castro claimed there was basis to believe that the killing was related to the victim's management of the factory canteen. He declined to elaborate.

The union lambasted Castro after he remarked that Servida was no longer a labor leader even before he died.

"Servida and Cristobal were full-time labor union organizers of SM-EMI. They helped us reach out to other workers who were not yet organized," the union said.

The group said Servida and Cristobal were instrumental in the formation of SM-EMI after their group split from the Kristong Manggagawa sa EMI (KM-EMI).

During a certification election in June, SM-EMI won over KM-EMI, which gave them the right to represent the 4,000 regular workers of the semiconductor company.

The KM-EMI and its president, Alberto Ronquillo, lost despite the backing of Cavite Gov. Erineo "Ayong" Maliksi, the group said.

Fears

Labor groups have denounced Servida's killing and expressed fears some of their members would be next.

The Workers' Assistance Center and the Solidarity of Cavite Workers said labor leaders were either being gunned down or placed under military surveillance.

Luz Baculo, secretary general of the Pagkakaisa ng mga Manggagawa sa Timog Katagalugan (Pamantik), a regional chapter of Kilusang Mayo Uno, said: "We are alarmed by the current condition of labor organizers in the country.

Before, we were tagged by the government as terrorists, but now, it has worsened with our ranks reduced by the killing of our leaders," she added.

Baculo said her group feared that their names were on the list of militants to be killed.

She claimed that on Dec. 4, a labor organizer in Sta. Rosa, Laguna was tailed by three members of the Intelligence Service of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (Isafp).

Surveillance

She said two men on a motorcycle followed the organizer but when she got inside the jeepney, another man also boarded the jeep and kept an eye on her until she alighted and entered a house in a subdivision, she said.

The three alleged Isafp agents were nabbed by barangay security guards. They were identified as Nilo Enciso, Noel Samaniego and Mark Ryan Lopez.

"They have shown their IDs and we have confirmed that they are members of the AFP," Baculo said.

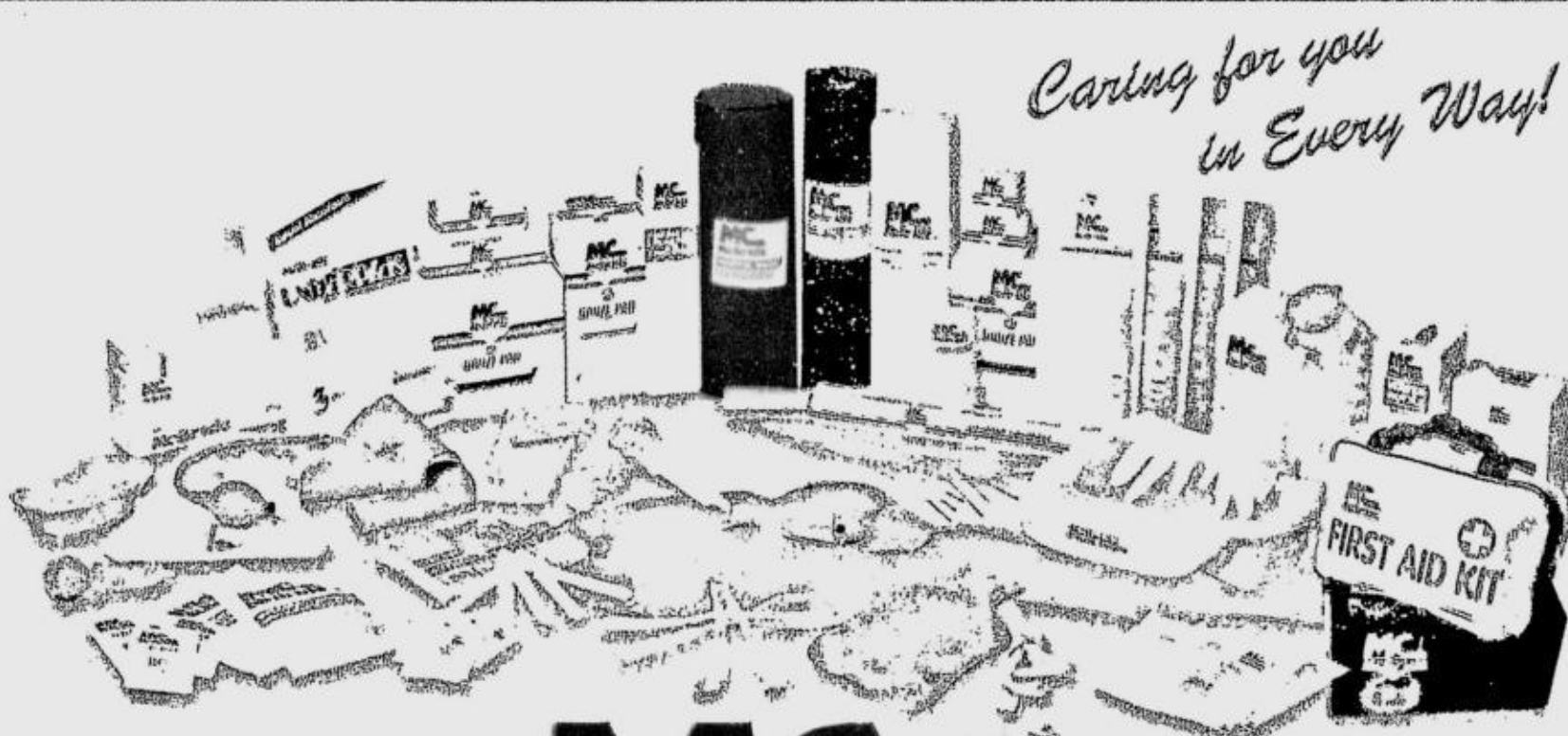
One 2-way radio handset and a .45 cal. pistol were seized from the military men, she said.

Some members of the Nestlé union in Cabuyao, Laguna, also claimed receiving death threats through phone calls and text messages, she said.

"The surveillance and killings of unionists sow alarm and fear among workers, mostly in export processing zones, to discourage them from forming unions and fighting for their legitimate rights," she added.

The military has repeatedly denied involvement in the extrajudicial killings of leftists and pointed the blame on communist rebels. Marlon Ramos and Nina Catherine Calleja, Inquirer Southern Luzon

HOSPITAL HEALTHCARE PRODUCTS



- Asepto Syringe
- Bed Pan
- Cotton Filled Gauze
- Elastic Bandage
- Examination Gloves
- Eye Pads
- Female Urinal
- First Aid Kit
- Gauze Pad
- Hospital Gauze
- Hot Water Bag
- Invalid Ring
- Irrigating Syringe
- Kelly Pad

MCTM
McBride
FAMILY
The One You Trust!

- Male Urinal
- Medical Plaster
- Nelathon Catheter
- Non-Woven Swab
- Operating Sponge
- Surgical Gloves Sterile
- Umbilical Cord Clamp
- Under Pads
- Urine Bag
- Wadding Sheet
- Water Bottle Fountain Syringe
- Wooden Tongue Depressors

Exclusively Distributed By

medical center trading corporation

Phone: 521-1216 • 521-5055 • 521-5054
Fax: 521-1216 • 521-5055 • 521-5054

Visit Our Showroom at the 2nd floor

MANILA: 771-8374 DAVAO: (082) 222-4804
PASIG: 631-1712 PAMPANGA: (045) 861-7892
LIPA: (043) 757-2851 CAGAYAN DE ORO: (086) 856-8180
CEBU: (32) 254-2367 URDUYAN: (075) 566-7580
BAGUIO: (033) 329-3413 CAGAYAN: (054) 853-7912
NAGA: (054) 473-6186

Available at

 **mercury drug**

Stores Nationwide

NDF says it invited slain Bicol lawyer to peace talks

THE NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC Front strongly condemned the brutal murder of Bicol human rights lawyer Gil Gojol and his driver Danilo France and blame President Macapagal-Arroyo and the military for the killings.

"We grieve the loss of a dedicated human rights defender," Luis Jalandoni, chair of the NDF peace negotiating panel, said in an e-mailed statement to the INQUIRER.

He said the NDF held the Arroyo regime and its killers from the military, the Philippine National Police and paramilitary forces accountable for the brutal murder.

Jalandoni said Gojol was supposed to be one of the NDF legal consultants in the peace talks with the government, which are now indefinitely suspended.

However, the late lawyer re-

fused the invitation because he was then busy defending human rights victims in Bicol, making it difficult for him to leave the country to join the NDF panel in Oslo, Norway, according to the communist leader, now in self-exile in Utrecht, The Netherlands.

"For many years Atty. Gojol used his skills and talents as a lawyer to defend the rights of victims of human rights violations," Jalandoni said.

NDF consultant

He cited Gojol's lawyering for former NDF consultants Sotero Llamas and Danilo Borjal when the two were illegally detained in violation of the Joint Agreement on Safety and Immunity Guarantees (Jasig).

Llamas himself was murdered

on May 29 this year.

Jalandoni said President Arroyo and the Cabinet Oversight Committee for Internal Security, which includes Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita and National Security Adviser Norberto Gonzales, should be held responsible for the latest twin murder and the extra-judicial killings of 800 other unarmed civilians, the enforced disappearances of more than 200 persons and the frustrated killings of more than 200 others.

The NDF, the political arm of the communist insurgents, has conveyed sympathy to Gojol and France's family, relatives, and friends.

In Sorsogon City, the chief of police of Gubat town where Gojol was gunned down was relieved of his post police provincial director

Senior Supt. Joel Regondola said.

Relieved

Regondola said Chief Insp. Juanito Gapan, who was replaced by his deputy as Gubat chief of police, had been designated head of the police team investigating the murder.

"This was in line with Philippine National Police Chief Oscar Calderon's new policy on command responsibility relative to political killings," added Regondola.

Calderon earlier announced that the chief of police of the area where a political killing occurred would be relieved of his post.

A lawyer of the party-list group Bayan Muna and the Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas, Gojol was ambushed at around

10 a.m., Dec. 12.

He was set to return to Sorsogon City after attending a court hearing in Gubat when waylaid by unidentified assassins.

Last Monday, Bayan Muna member Crisanto Frivaldo was also shot dead in Irosin town, 42 km from this city.

Regondola said there were still

no suspects in the killings but that the police had continued with their investigation.

Sorsogon bishop Arturo Bastes has condemned the killings that came on the heels of the recent celebration of International Human Rights Day. **Delfin Mallari Jr. and Bobby Labalan, Inquirer Southern Luzon**

Roxas vows to probe water woes of Bulacan, Pampanga farmers

PAOMBONG, BULACAN—SEN. Manuel Roxas II has promised to look into the water management system and allocation of the supply in Angat Dam following complaints from farmers that their farms have not been getting enough irrigation water.

In his visit here on Sunday, Roxas, chair of the Senate committee on agriculture, asked Mayor Donato Marcos and farmers here and from other towns in Bulacan and Pampanga to consult a lawyer who would study Angat's water management and distribution before he called for a Senate investigation.

Apolinario Paguio, president of Working Station 5 (sub-group) of the Angat Maasim River System (Amris) Confederation of Farmers and Irrigators Association Inc. in Bulacan and Pampanga, has assailed various government agencies controlling or using the dam's supply of neglecting their needs for irrigation water.

Paguio said the National Power Corp. has authorized water releases to other beneficiaries and water districts to the detriment of farmers who depend on the dam's supply to irrigate their lands.

Rodolfo German, manager of the Napocor's Angat Hydroelectric Power Plant that manages the Angat Dam, however, dismissed Paguio's accusations.

"They can visit and inspect our facilities. We would welcome any investigation on our supposed illegal distribution of water to other recipients," German said.

He said they were only following orders from the National Water Re-

sources Board (NWRB) on the allocation and amount of water released to the dam's two recipients—the National Irrigation Administration and the Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System.

German said the Napocor has increased water allocation for farmers to 33 cubic meters per second (cms) daily after water level at Angat Dam improved to 213 meters.

He said MWSS is receiving 41 cms daily to supply the needs of Metro Manila households and establishments.

German said the NWRB usually orders the reduction of the amount of water to be released to NIA when water elevation at the dam drops so they could prioritize the need of Metro Manila residents for drinking water.

Paguio said every time water level at Angat drops, the farmers' irrigation water supply is the first to be cut. He also said they were not informed properly that their supply would be reduced.

Jesus Perez, acting operations chief of NIA in Bulacan, said farmers in the province were no longer receiving the earlier agreed 36 cms for their farms' irrigation needs.

Perez said the allocation dropped to 22 cms in October.

He said the supply increased to 26 cms after former Bulacan Gov. Roberto Pagdanganan, chair of the Philippine International Trading Corp. (PITC), intervened and asked the NWRB to give the farmers their rightful share from the dam's water. **Carmela Reyes, Inquirer Central Luzon**

P25-M sought for recovery plan of Catanduanes agri

VIRAC, CATANDUANES—AGRICULTURE Secretary Arthur Yap Jr. has personally assured Gov. Leandro Verceles Jr. that his office would give the highest priority to the request of the Catanduanes provincial government to release P25 million for the province's agriculture recovery plan in the wake of Super-typhoon "Reming's" devastation.

Verceles, who told the INQUIRER of Yap's assurance, sent an official request for the funding last week through Budget Secretary Rolando Andaya Jr.

The fund to be used to implement the Provincial Agricultural Rehabilitation Plan, which seeks to rehabilitate key agricultural sub-sectors.

Provincial agriculturist Herbert DLS Evangelista said the plan intends to bring about immediate production of selected crops, live-stock and fishery products with short gestation periods to replenish losses caused by the typhoon.

Cash crops such as abaca and coconut will be rehabilitated while the cultivation of alternative cash crops with shorter maturity such as cassava will be pushed to diversify local crops and lessen heavy dependence of farmers on traditional crops.

Primarily involving procurement and distribution to farmers, the agriculture recovery plan is broken down as follows: Fruits, vegetables and rootcrops (465 kilos of assorted seeds, 160 bags of fertilizer, chemicals and seedling trays), P500,000; rice (assorted certified palay seeds), P1.4 million; coconut (seedlings), P1.7 million; abaca (seedlings), P6.5 million; livestock (sasso chicken,

goats, sows and piglets), P5.4 million; fishery (fish nets and fingerlings), P5.5 million; cassava (production), P1.8 million; and, infrastructure support, P3.8 million.

The rest of the funding will be shouldered by the provincial government.

In another development, the Provincial Disaster Coordinating Council has asked the banking sector and other financial institutions to extend a four- to six-month moratorium on the payment of all loan amortizations in the wake of the devastation left by "Reming" in Catanduanes.

In a resolution passed on Dec. 13, the PDCC said the proposed moratorium would cover loans incurred by all government employees, marginalized households, and micro, small and medium enterprises in the province.

The council, headed by Gov. Leandro Verceles Jr., said the magnitude of the economic damage made it very likely that ordinary employees, marginalized households and enterprises would be having a tough time to recover from the typhoon damage and to meet periodic financial obligations.

It added that the moratorium period of four to six months would give the households and SMEs reasonable time to recover financial muscle.

The PDCC resolution came in the wake of the Government Service Insurance System decision to implement a five-month moratorium on all loan payments for its members in Albay, Camarines Sur and Catanduanes. **Fernan Gi-anan, Inquirer Southern Luzon**

Committed to Quality of Life

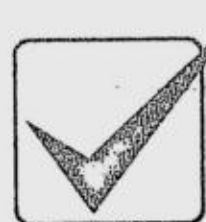
Hurry! Limited Offer FREE! (1) Box of Xceed Glucose Strips By 25% Buy 1 (1) Unit of Optium Xc Meter (1) Box of Test Strips (100)

Xceed STARTER PACK

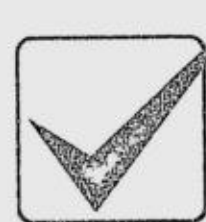
Loss Time: 5 seconds
Loss Blood: 0.8µl

Available at: **Abbott** A Promise for Life

Di kumpleto ang Pasko kung walang



Puto Bumbong



Parol



PROMAC

PROMAC HOME APPLIANCES

EZZ

5 17

(All in exact order)

Mid-Day SUERTRES Evening

4 8 9 3 0 8

(All in exact order)

SPORTS

SUPERLOTTO 6/49

4 5 6 38 39 46
P8,000,000.00

ILDEFONSO SHINES

Hot Beermen crush Phone Pals

By June Navarro

DANNY ILDEFONSO DOES not mind coming off the bench.

In fact, the two-time Most Valuable Player proved more effective in his new job after helping San Miguel Beer register a 114-102 win over Talk 'N Text last night in the Talk 'N Text-PBA Philippine Cup at the Araneta Coliseum.

"He (Ildefonso) has accepted his role of coming off the bench," said San Miguel Beer coach Chot Reyes. "And so far, he's been doing a great job."

Ildefonso joined forces with Danny Seigle and Lordy Tugade in a third-quarter assault that allowed the Beermen to cut loose from a tight contest on the way to a sixth straight victory, their 12th overall in 17 games.

Red Bull later knocked defending champion Purefoods out of the running for an automatic semifinal slot after a 112-92 victory.

The Barako got six players scoring 12 or better in rising to 11-6, while the Chunkee Giants dropped to 10-7.

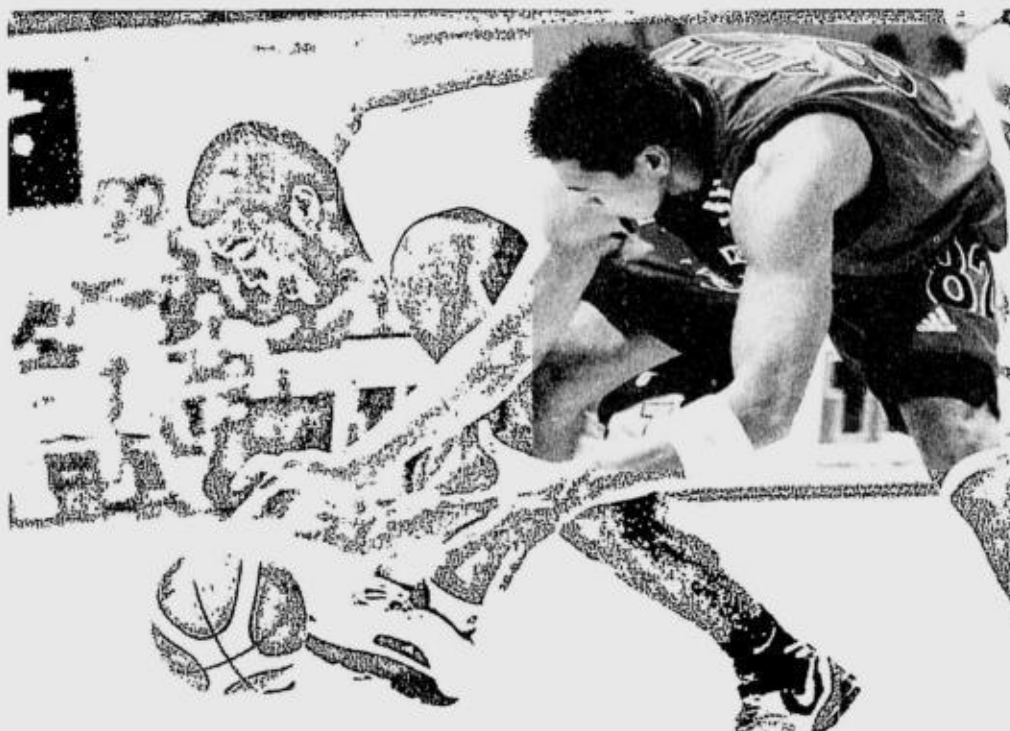
Seigle knocked in 16 of his game-high 26 points while Ildefonso and Tugade added eight points each as the Beermen scored 42 points in the third for a commanding 92-72 spread.

Ildefonso finished with 18 points while Dorian Pena and Rommel Adducul pulled down almost half of the team's 64 rebounds.

"Rommel is a silent worker. You will just be surprised the moment you see the statistics after the game," said Reyes, whose Beermen earned at least a playoff for the No. 2 spot.

The top two teams after the classification phase advance outright to the semifinals.

The Beermen will have an eight-day break before meeting the Air21 Express on Christmas day



TALK 'N TEXT's Jay Washington (left) and San Miguel's Rommel Adducul battle for the loose ball in last night's game.

AUGUST DELA CRUZ

with another victory assuring them of an automatic seat in the best-of-seven semifinals.

The Phone Pals, who lost after back-to-back victories, fell to 9-8 and are now in danger of going to the wildcard phase.

The scores:

First Game

SAN MIGUEL 114—Seigle 26, Ildefonso 18, Montiveros 15, Tugade 14, Racala 11, Pena 9, Adducul 7, Tenorio 5, Espinas 4, Wilson 4, Gonzales 1

TALK 'N TEXT 102—Allado 21, Taulava 18, Alapag 14, Rit-

ualo 14, Carey 12, Washington 8, Belano 8, Cardona 7, Fran 0, Noble 0

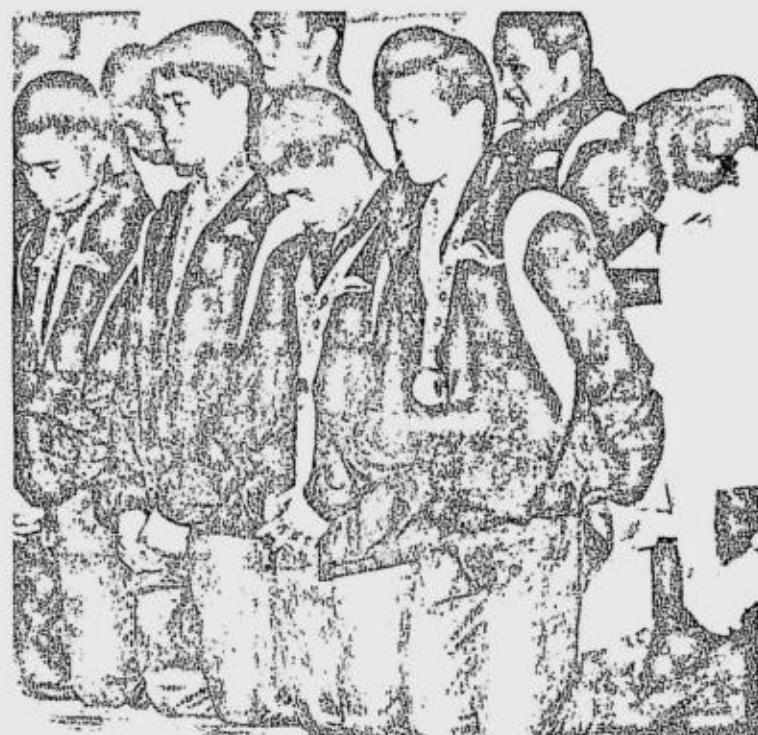
Quarters: 18-26, 50-50, 92-72, 114-102

Second Game:

RED BULL 112—Pennisi 19, Fonacier 16, Bagulo 15, Sharma 14, Villanueva 13, Cruz 12, Valenzuela 6, Robinson 5, Membere 4, Bugla 4, Alvarez 4, Najorda 0.

PUREFOODS 92—Yap J. 25, Raymundo 17, Simon 13, Yee 11, Salvador 7, Yap R. 7, Artadi 6, Pingris 4, Evangelista 2, Limpot 0, Castillo 0, Camaso 0.

Quarters: 24-21, 57-41, 84-71, 112-92



THANKSGIVING

MEMBERS of the Philippine boxing team headed by boxing association President Manny Lopez (right) attend a thanksgiving mass at Sto. Niño Church in Tondo, Manila. Present were (from right) gold medalists Joan Tipon, Violito Payla and bronze medalists Genebert Basadre and Godfrey Castro.

RYAN LIM

Archers complete Homegrown cage sweep, rip Bombers

By Jasmine W. Payo

THE LA SALLE GREEN ARCHERS sent a message that they'll be back strong in the collegiate scene.

Playing with typical aplomb, the Archers drubbed the Jose Rizal Bombers, 79-67, yesterday to complete a seven-game sweep of the FilOil-Flying V Homegrown Invitational Cup and pocket their first title of the year at the Philsports Arena.

Most Valuable Player Rico Maierhofer and TY Tang stepped up big time for La Salle, which soothed the thirst of not being able to play this year in the UAAP somewhat with this victory.

"I'm surprised with the team's development," said La Salle coach Franz Pumaren. "At the start, it was hard to motivate the players and to be back in game shape. But I guess the players tried to prove something."

The Archers showed their hunger for winning by blitzing the Bombers right off the reel as Tang, Maierhofer and JV Casio presided on a 19-8 start that proved decisive.

Tang finished with 22 points and Maierhofer added 15 and 11 rebounds.

Earlier, the Far Eastern Tamaraws clinched third spot with a 72-63 vic-

tory over the University of the East. Marnel Baracael led the Tamaraws with 19 markers, while Ron Cabagnot shot six of his 11 points during a pivotal third quarter run.

Maierhofer was later on named to the Mythical Five together with teammate JV Casio, Jose Rizal's JR Sena, Far Eastern's Paul Sanga and University of the East's James Martinez.

Although the Bombers moved within a basket, 29-27, the Archers responded with an 11-1 charge to stretch the lead back to 40-28.

The scores:

First Game

FAR EASTERN 72—Baracael 19, Cabagnot 11, Adolfo 10, Abaring 8, Barroca 6, Cervantes 5, Sanga 4, Tanuan 3, Allsbo 2, Gerilla 2, Ramos 0, Vinluan 2.

UE 63—Thiele 15, Canizares 14, Martinez 10, Acuna 7, Bandyang 6, Etrone 4, Fampulme 3, Lingganay 2, Llagas 2, Espiritu 0, Reyes 0, Zamar 0.

Quarters: 14-14, 29-27, 46-48, 72-63

Second Game:

LA SALLE 79—Tang 22, Maierhofer 15, Casio 12, Barua 8, Malabes 7, Villanueva 4, Cua 4, Co 2, Batricovic 2, Walsham 2, Iad 1, Atkins 0.

JRU 67—Wilson 26, Sena 15, Dedicatioria 8, Pradas 8, Tumalak 5, Apostol 3, Capoco 2, Bulangis 0, Cunanan 0, Yuzon 0, Nocom 0, Echane 0, Hayes 0, Se 0, De Vera 0.

Quarters: 26-22, 47-35, 59-46, 79-67

ASUS
Rock solid. Heart touching.

Optimum performance,
superior technology, reliable service.

ASUS notebooks come with a 2-year Global Warranty. Plus with innovative mobile performance, user-friendly design, and superb service anytime and anywhere, ASUS notebooks are the perfect Yuletide gifts for those who want an amazing edge in technology.

- Intel Core II Duo T5500, 1.66 GHz
- 512 MB DDR2 Memory
- 80GB SATA 5400 HDD
- DVD Super Multi Double Layer Drive

- 128MB Video IMVT
- 14" WXGA Display
- Intel 945 GM Express
- Wireless LAN A/B/G
- Gigabit Lan
- 4-in-1 Card Reader

A78 FM
P 59,900
P 4,991.67/mo
@ 12 months 0% interest



- Intel Yonah Duo Core T7400 2.1 GHz
- 2048 MB Memory DDR2 667 MHz
- 160GB HDD
- DVD Super Multi-Double Layer Drive
- 15.1" SXGA Color Shine, Splendid Video Intelligence Technology
- Nvidia GeForce GO 7400VX Edition
- Windows XP Home
- Wireless 3945 a/b/g
- Gigabit LAN
- 4-in-1 Card Reader
- Bluetooth V2.0 + EDR

P 165,000.00 **P 13,750.67/mo**
@ 12 months 0% interest



- Intel Core II Duo Processor T5500 1.66GHz
- 512MB DDR2 / 533 MHz
- 80GB HDD
- DVD Super Multi-Double Layer Drive
- 12.1" WXGA Color Shine
- 128MB Video IMVT
- Intel 945GM Express Chipset
- Wireless LAN 802.11 b/g
- Windows XP Home
- Built-in Web Camera
- 4-in-1 Card Reader
- Built-in Bluetooth
- also available in white

P 95,000.00 **P 7,916.67/mo**
@ 12 months 0% interest



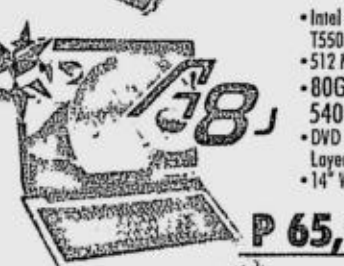
- Intel Core II Duo Processor T5500 1.66GHz
- 512MB DDR2
- 80GB HDD
- DVD Super Multi-Double Layer Drive
- 13.3" WXGA
- Intel 945GM Express Chipset
- Nvidia GeForce GO 7400VX
- Wireless LAN 802.11 b/g
- Windows XP Home
- 10/100 LAN
- 8-in-1 Card Reader
- 1.3 Mega Pixel Web Cam
- Bluetooth V2.0 + EDR

P 99,900.00 **P 8,325.00/mo**
@ 12 months 0% interest



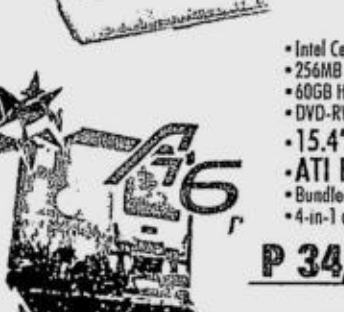
- Intel Core Duo II Processor L2300 @ 1.5GHz
- 512 MB DDR2 Memory
- 100 GB Hard Disk Drive
- DVD Super Multi Double Layer Drive
- 11.1" WXGA colorshine Crystal Shine LCD
- ASUS Splendid Video Intelligent Engine
- Intel 945GM Express Chipset
- Intel PRO Wireless 3945 a/b/g
- Windows XP Home
- Gigabit LAN
- Bluetooth V2.0 + EDR
- 4-in-1 Card Reader

P 135,000.00 **P 11,250.00/mo**
@ 12 months 0% interest



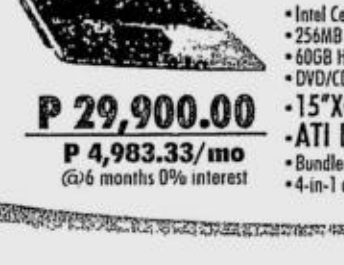
- Intel Core Duo II Processor T5500 @ 1.66GHz
- 512 MB DDR2 Memory
- 80GB SATA 5400 HDD
- DVD Super Multi Double Layer Drive
- 14" WXGA Color Shine
- NVIDIA GeForce Go 6100 video card
- Wireless LAN a/b/g
- Gigabit LAN
- 4-in-1 Card Reader
- Built-in Web Camera
- Bluetooth V2.0 + EDR
- Intel 945GM Express Chipset

P 65,000.00 **P 5,416.67/mo**
@ 12 months 0% interest



- Intel Celeron M Processor 1.86 GHz
- 256MB DDR2/533 MHz memory
- 60GB Hard Disk Drive
- DVD-RW Super Multi Double Layer Drive
- 15.4" XGA Color Shine TFT LCD Display
- ATI Radeon Xpress 200M chipset
- Bundled with WL-107g wi-fi PCMCIA card for faster signal
- 4-in-1 card reader

P 34,000.00 **P 2,833.33/mo**
@ 12 months 0% interest



- Intel Celeron M Processor 1.66 GHz
- 256MB DDR2/533 MHz memory
- 60GB Hard Disk Drive
- DVD/CD-RW Combo Drive
- 15" XGA Color Shine TFT LCD Display
- ATI Radeon Xpress 200M chipset
- Bundled with WL-107g wi-fi PCMCIA card for faster signal
- 4-in-1 card reader

P 29,900.00 **P 4,983.33/mo**
@ 6 months 0% interest

ASUS SERVICE CENTER:
ASUSWORLD
Cyberzone, 4th Floor
SM Megamall, Bldg. B
(02) 638.2955

TEKZONE
(02) 812-8976

PC Corner Gilmore 7231710
Complan (02) 920-9140 to 41
TCA 9141270-73
Silicon Valley (02) 371-5611 to 15
Villamor Computer Systems, Inc.
(02) 892-2222
Accord Micro 4289829
NT Computer Mart 633-4690
Premium Logic 633-3295
E-Plus (02) 775-0140 to 41
E-World 812-6154
Outgroup Computer 6359080
Times Computer 735-1142 to 43
Information 637-1473

Starapple 811421-24
PC Live 634-2438
Digital Walker V-Mall 725-5136
Gigabyte 525153
Poder Racket PC Senguloc
712-1711/732-9200
Poder Racket PC Timeg 411-8884
Batangas
Southland Computer Center
(043) 723-6080
Davao
Digital Interface
(082) 231 1756
Computer World Marketing
(082) 222-0251

Binque Tech & Services (082) 297-6106
(082) 300-3477
Cebu
Thinking Tools (032) 254-2227
X-Comp (032) 262 5155 to 57
Wind Systems (032) 555 5263
Iloilo
Concept Rolo (034) 337-6874
La Union
WCH Mobile Center (074) 888-2233
Palawan
Teleque Computer Sola (048) 434-8902
Dagupan City
PC Market Center (075) 975-6528

Tarlagon
EDS Computers
(043) 231-0835, 235-5904
Bacolod
R.C. Computer Based
(034) 434 2532 to 39
Iligan
Data Vision (082) 231-2972
Interface Computer Systems
Cagayan de Oro
(082) 826 8268
(082) 872 9975
Bulacan (045) 815-4200
Iligan (082) 223 2763
Valencia (050) 818-3543

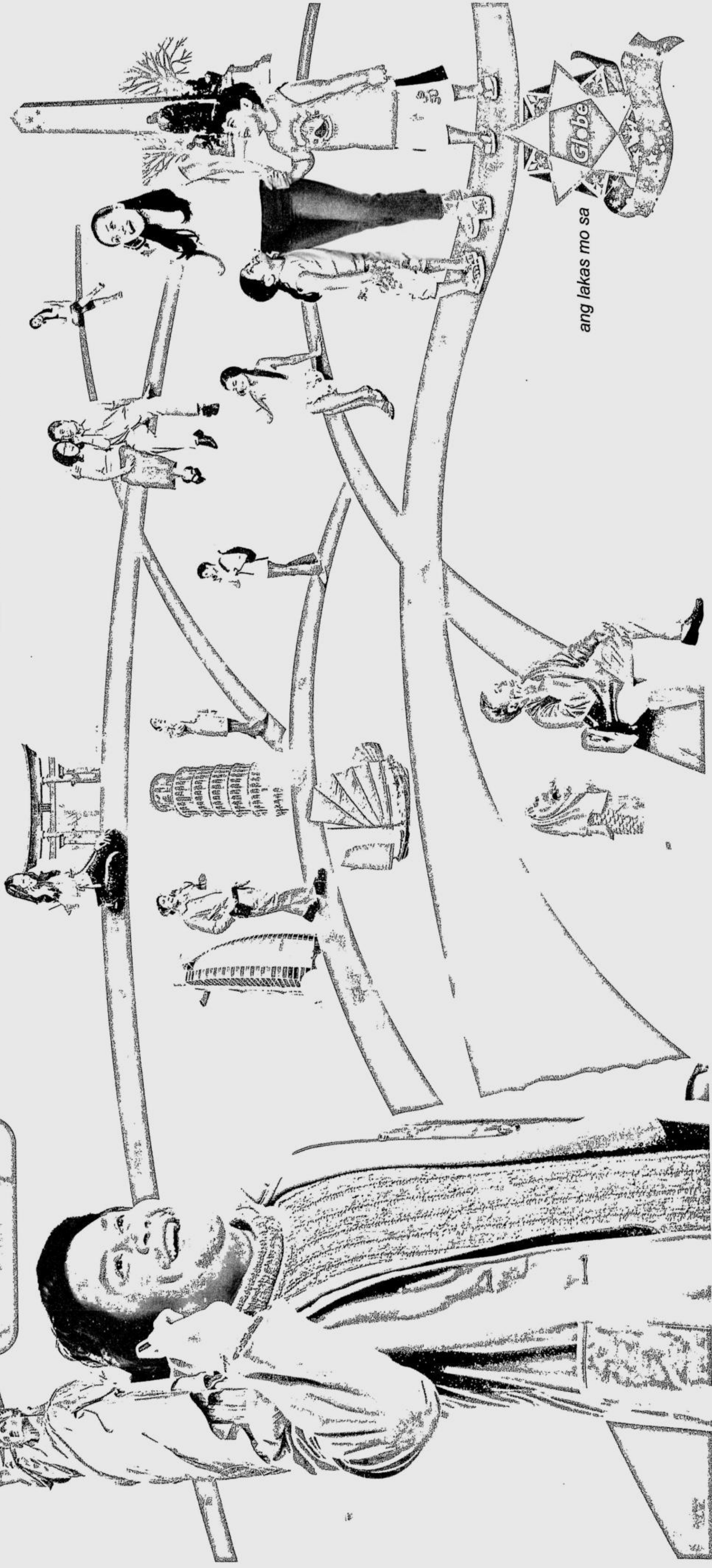
For inquiries:
Manila: (02)-7249998
Email: bci_sales@banbros.ph
Cebu: (032)-4227760-65
Email: sales@banbroscaebu.com

Possible 'yan sa

Globe WORLWIDEST SERVICES

**Saar naan sa mundo
tooyau buda oyoisim
oyleyabouba**

Sl. No.	Name of the Candidate	Grade	Remarks
1	...	...	...
2	...	...	...
3	...	...	...
4	...	...	...
5	...	...	...
6	...	...	...
7	...	...	...
8	...	...	...
9	...	...	...
10	...	...	...
11	...	...	...
12	...	...	...
13	...	...	...
14	...	...	...
15	...	...	...
16	...	...	...
17	...	...	...
18	...	...	...
19	...	...	...
20	...	...	...
21	...	...	...
22	...	...	...
23	...	...	...
24	...	...	...
25	...	...	...
26	...	...	...
27	...	...	...
28	...	...	...
29	...	...	...
30	...	...	...
31	...	...	...
32	...	...	...
33	...	...	...
34	...	...	...
35	...	...	...
36	...	...	...
37	...	...	...
38	...	...	...
39	...	...	...
40	...	...	...
41	...	...	...
42	...	...	...
43	...	...	...
44	...	...	...
45	...	...	...
46	...	...	...
47	...	...	...
48	...	...	...
49	...	...	...
50	...	...	...
51	...	...	...
52	...	...	...
53	...	...	...
54	...	...	...
55	...	...	...
56	...	...	...
57	...	...	...
58	...	...	...
59	...	...	...
60	...	...	...
61	...	...	...
62	...	...	...
63	...	...	...
64	...	...	...
65	...	...	...
66	...	...	...
67	...	...	...
68	...	...	...
69	...	...	...
70	...	...	...
71	...	...	...
72	...	...	...
73	...	...	...
74	...	...	...
75	...	...	...
76	...	...	...
77	...	...	...
78	...	...	...
79	...	...	...
80	...	...	...
81	...	...	...
82	...	...	...
83	...	...	...
84	...	...	...
85	...	...	...
86	...	...	...
87	...	...	...
88	...	...	...
89	...	...	...
90	...	...	...
91	...	...	...
92	...	...	...
93	...	...	...
94	...	...	...
95	...	...	...
96	...	...	...
97	...	...	...
98	...	...	...
99	...	...	...
100	...	...	...



ang lakas mo sa

plus METRO

Editor Ester G. Dipasupil

Text us your feedback: inquirer met name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart) E-mail: pr_metro@inquirer.com.ph

Stray bullet kills young girl

By DJ Yap

TWO-YEAR-OLD CHRISTINE ORDAS was just playing in front of her house in Quezon City when a stray bullet fired by one of two quarreling neighbors hit her in the head, police said.

She died in the hospital a day later. The girl's father, Renato, 31, told investigators that the suspects, Eric

Bayawan and Jun Pajabustan, were engaged in a heated argument when the incident occurred at past 6 p.m. on Dec. 14 at 250 Liwanag St., Barangay Old Balara in Diliman.

Trigger-happy

At the height of the argument, the neighbors drew their guns and began firing at each other, according to a re-

port by case investigator SPO1 Juan Mortel.

Christine suddenly dropped to the ground after being hit in the head, Mortel said.

Upon seeing what happened, Bayawan and Pajabustan quickly fled, the investigator said.

Her family rushed Christine to the East Avenue Medical Center, but she

died while undergoing surgery at 9:30 p.m. the next day, police said.

Her body was forwarded to the crime laboratory for autopsy.

Who fired fatal shot?

It was not immediately clear who between Bayawan and Pajabustan fired the bullet that hit the girl.

Both suspects remain in hiding.

WHAT'S INSIDE

■ **P3-M computers, pirated software seized in Makati** /A26

■ **SPD cops warned: Respond in 7 minutes or else** /A26

■ **MMDA holiday reminder: Don't drink and drive** /A26

■ **Lullaby for an autistic child** /A26

For new and existing Plan Ahead Time Deposit clients...

Get a Drive Your Dream Auto Loan with NO DOWNPAYMENT required.



Amount of Principal	Nominal Interest Rate (Per Annum)	Average Interest Rate after 5 years (per Annum)
P50,000 - 299,999	5.625%	6.294%
P300,000 and up	6.000%	6.764%

Only BPI Family Savings Bank can give you the benefits of two great products, bundled into one.

Get the best interest rates with Plan Ahead, a five-year time deposit that you can use as your equity when you apply for a Drive Your Dream Auto Loan. There's NO DOWNPAYMENT required and you even earn interest on your equity. To top it off, you even get a FREE Emergency Car Care package from the Ibero Asistencia Group for your new car. This unique bundled offer is made possible only by BPI Family Savings Bank to help you get started on tomorrow.

For more information, call Auto Loans Direct Marketing at 845-6777 or text AUTO<space>name<space>your landline number<space>city or province and send it to 0917-89-10000 or 0918-89-10000. Or call 89-100, log on to www.bpiexpressonline.com or visit any BPI, BPI Family Savings Bank branch or Express Banking Center near you.

Drive, Dream

Plan Ahead
TIME DEPOSITBPI FAMILY SAVINGS BANK
Get started on tomorrow.

Member of the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation. Maximum Insurance For Each Depositor P250,000

SINCE 1893



WENGER

WATCHES FROM THE MAKER OF
THE GENUINE SWISS ARMY KNIFE™



MOUNTAINEER
MEN'S
PHP 7,200.00

LADIES
PHP 7,200.00

Exclusively available at:

chronos

Alabang Town Center•Gateway Mall•
Glorietta 3•Vista Mall•Greenhills•SM Megamall
The Powerplant•SM Mall of Asia

TIMESTUDIO

SM Megamall•SM North Edsa•
Shangri-La Mall•The Powerplant•Festival Mall
SM Pampanga•SM Southmall•SM Sta. Rosa
The Podium•SM Clark•SM Baguio•SM Mall of
Asia•SM San Lazaro•Robinson's Galleria•
Sta. Lucia East•Grand Mall•The Landmark
Department Store•SM Makati Department Store
SM Megamall Department Store

SWISS GEAR

The Block SM City North Edsa

LUCERNE

Ayala Center Cebu

NBI raids Makati firm, seizes pirated software

By Margaux C. Ortiz

AGENTS OF THE NATIONAL Bureau of Investigation (NBI) confiscated P3 million worth of computers and unauthorized software during a recent raid in Makati.

NBI Intellectual Property Rights Division (IPRD) chief Jose Justo Yap said his men raided Toenec Philippines Inc. at the L&F Building on Aguirre St., Legaspi Village, Makati City on Dec. 8.

Microsoft Corp. and Autodesk Inc., through the Business Software Alliance (BSA), had filed a complaint against the owners of the Makati office at the NBI.

The NBI IPRD and the BSA have been cooperating and sharing information since last year to eliminate the proliferation of pi-

rated computer software in the country.

Unauthorized copies

By virtue of search warrants issued by Judge Reynaldo Ros of Manila Regional Trial Court Branch 33, agents of the NBI raided Toenec and seized eight desktop computers and nine compact discs containing unauthorized copies of Microsoft Corp. and Autodesk Inc. software.

The approximate worth of the seized items is valued at P3 million, Yap said.

Charges of violation of Republic Act No. 8293 or the Intellectual Property Code of the Philippines are being readied against the owners of the raided company, the NBI official added.



ROADBLOCKS

INQUIRER reader Ronald Velasquez, 43, of Imus, Cavite, complained to Metro Citizens' Call about the proliferation of flea markets or tiangge in front of the Baclaran Church. His text message read: Pakiusap kay MMDA Chair Bayani Fernando at Mayor Florencio Bernabe ng Parañaque na linisin ang overpass sa harapan ng Baclaran Church na ginawa ng bahay at tiangge at wala nang madaanan ang tao bukod pa sa nagkalat ang basura.

RYAN LIM

METROBRIEFS

Money lender killed

POLICE are still trying to identify the three robbers who shot dead a 26-year-old man who refused to surrender his bag of cash in Pasig City on Friday night. Roger Regala was about to get on his blue motorcycle with his girlfriend when three men suddenly grabbed his bag. He tried to get it back but was shot in the chest at close range. The robbers then ran away with the bag containing at least P5,000 in cash. The victim was into money-lending and the robbers apparently knew he had money at that time, PO3 Roger Baltazar told the INQUIRER. This is not the first time a group of at least three robbers struck on the same street. Baltazar said three robbers also shot a meat dealer when he refused to give his wallet about six months ago. The meat dealer survived but the robbers escaped with the cash. The problem: The darkness on the remote street makes it easier for robbers to attack and escape. "There should be a lamp post there. The street is very dark at night so robbers can easily flee and disappear in the darkness," Baltazar said in Filipino.

Edson C. Tandoc Jr.

'Late' cops warned

GOOD news for residents in the southern part of Metro Manila. The new chief of the Southern Police District (SPD), Chief Supt. Roberto Rosales, has ordered his men to respond to calls for help within seven minutes or else, they would be punished accordingly. The SPD covers the cities of Makati, Parañaque, Pasay, Taguig, Muntinlupa, Las Piñas and Muntinlupa. Rosales said he does not see any reason why his mobile patrolmen should be late in responding to emergency calls as they have been provided motorcycles as well as gas allowances. "If they tell you that they cannot respond on time because they have no gas, that's not true," he said. Rosales encouraged the public to report "tardy" policemen to him at 0927-3554235. The punishment would depend on the responding law enforcer's explanation, he told the INQUIRER. However, he cited an exception to the rule: "If the emergencies come in all at the same time, I will understand why they can't respond within seven minutes."

Jocelyn R. Uy

MMDA: No drinking if you're driving

By Tarra V. Quismundo

IN THE MIDDLE OF ALL THE merrymaking this holiday season, the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) yesterday asked motorists to keep in mind one of the cardinal rules on the road: Don't drink and drive.

Concerned that all the partying this Christmas might lead to accidents, MMDA traffic chief Angelito Vergel de Dios said motorists should refrain from imbibing too much liquor.

Holiday reminder

"There are many parties and a lot of drinking this season so for those going to parties, they should have a designated driver who will not drink," De Dios told the INQUIRER over the phone.

As MMDA Chair Bayani Fernando bluntly put it, the most costly fine for violating this rule is loss of life.

"The heaviest penalty is death," said Fernando during the agency's weekly public service program aired over dzBB radio yesterday.

De Dios said intoxicated motorists have figured in countless accidents on the road—from those that led to deaths or resulted in vehicles climbing over center islands, crashing onto concrete barriers, or running over fences on sidewalks or loading bays.

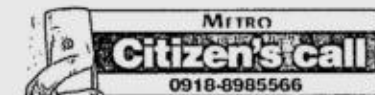
Stiff fine

"It's not just being involved in an accident that they must avoid, but the fine they may face when caught. If their vehicle were to go over the gutter or hit the fence, or if they are seen swerving on lanes uncontrollably, they will be caught and fined P2,000 if it is determined that they are drunk," he added.

No break

According to De Dios, MMDA traffic enforcers will not go on break during the holiday season to keep a tight watch on major roads in the metropolis.

"They will be out on the road up to 11 p.m. when traffic is really heavy. Especially on New Year, they (traffic enforcers) will be on the road and rescue vehicles will be on standby," he said.



Calling the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority, Manila City government and Traffic Management Group. Traffic in front of Infant Jesus Hospital on Laon Laan, Manila hasn't improved for several years now because of parked vehicles on both sides. Madalas double parking pa and there are also the flower vendors who occupy the sidewalks. Danilo Guzman, Paltok, Quezon City

I'm a frequent traveler to the north. I'm always disgusted with the Dau Bus Terminal exit way. Napakarumi, nakakahiya sa mga turista. Rack Estiller-Corpus, Quezon City

To the agencies concerned, please put lights on the walkway in the middle of C-4 Road, it's very dark and dangerous to students like me. Thanks. Aaron Vargas, Malabon

To Manila Mayor Lito Atienza: Bakit meron naninilngi ng parking fee sa mga gusto pumarada sa Gandara St. in Binondo? Inutos daw ng ahensya niyo. Is this true and legal? Arlene Go, Sta. Cruz, Manila

Maynilad was lying last week when it said that the water supply would be normal in two days. Dito sa lugar namin, walang definite schedule ang dating ng tubig. Minsan 48 hours walang tubig, minsan 2 a.m. tumutulo up to 4 a.m. Paano kami makapag-ilpon kung hindi namin alam kung kelan magkakaroon at huwag naman sanang itap-at ng madaling araw. We have to go to work and we cannot stay up late. Sana tumulad sila sa Manila Water in efficiency. Danilo Guzman, Baler Paltok, Quezon City

Water supply on F. Huertas St., especially between Quiricada and San Lorenzo St., is murky and smells very bad. It has been days. Joey Reyes, 50, Makati

Nobody has responded yet. Steve, Sta Cruz, Manila

I would like to report a dark alley, from Matutum Street to Igdalig Street here in Barangay Manresa, Quezon City. A lot of incidents of carjacking and snatching have occurred in the area. Street bums also use it as a public toilet. Joel, 40, Barangay Manresa, Quezon City

Can't get through 1626 hotline. Our water supply has been foul smelling and murky for the past days here in Chester Industries at F. Huertas Street, between Quiricada and San Lazaro Streets. We need help urgent! Steve, 42, Sta. Cruz, Manila

Pedicabs all over Taft, Vito Cruz, Estrada causing traffic and near-accidents. Their drivers do not observe traffic rules and they are being tolerated by police and barangay tanods. Joey Reyes, 50, Makati

Lullaby for an autistic child

By Amadis Ma. Guerrero
Contributor

RAYMOND IS AN AUTISTIC CHILD UNDER the care of Ang Arko ng Pilipinas, the Philippine branch of L'Arche, an international non-government organization which cares for mentally challenged children.

Every year, come Christmas time, Raymond has to be brought to the provinces because the noise of the city unnerves him, and disturbs him deeply.

One of those taking care of Raymond is Marchan Padla, a Mindanao native and volunteer worker for Arko who is a songwriter in his own right.

Creative juices

The frequent interaction with Raymond stirred young Padla's creative juices, and soon a song about Raymond, and his need for peace and quiet during the frenzied holiday season, began to percolate in Padla's mind.

By late 2004, Padla felt that with a little professional assist, the song could be completed and recorded to raise funds for his protégé.

With only a lyric sheet, with neither chords nor music, he approached the students and young professionals of Hangad, a group based at the Ateneo de Manila University which specializes in spiritual songs.

Catchy song

The volunteer worker sang the song from memory, without accompaniment. And with only a few bars into the song, as the Hangad members (including composer-arranger-pianist Paulo K. Tirol) recalled recently, they knew that it was a song they wanted to do.

Buckling down to work, they figured out the song's chords until it acquired polish,

and then arranged for the group to study it. The lyrics were in English, and the composition that emerged was entitled "Raymond's Lullaby."

Hangad did not have any recordings lined up for that year, but they performed the song during their Christmas concert.

The audience was very moved by the music and lyrics inspired by little Raymond, whose autism makes him vulnerable to the din of city life come December: "If I'd make a wish for Christmas, each man would be more like a child.... And the noise will fade, weary hearts will find themselves at ease."

Dream come true

The song is finally out in the market, in a recently released CD titled "A Wish for Christmas," produced by the Jesuit Music Ministry of the Jesuit Communications Foundation (www.jesuits.ph/jescom), based at the Loyola House of Studies in Ateneo.

The lyrics and music are by Padla and Tirol, with vocal arrangement by the latter, who is also the pianist.

The instrumental and midi programming are by Julius Guevara, with Dru Ubaldo on the drums.

Souls that cross

"Ang Arko, and Raymond, and Marchan, and Hangad, and the Jesuit Music Ministry... it is amazing how souls cross in this manner," declared Armando Baltazar, chair of the board of Arko.

"It is Hangad's wish for Christmas that through this simple recording, our souls and Raymond's cross with each of yours as well," Tirol prayed.

Also in the CD is another Hangad original, "Child Emmanuel," by Nicky Reyes, a "Paskong Pinoy Medley," and the group's version of "Silent Night."



CASH-CASH
SOCKS & SCRATCH
CHRISTMAS
INSTANT WIN PROMO

MECHANICS:

- For a single purchase of 300.00 Burlington Products (Burlington, BioFresh, Bally, Camp and Puma), customer is entitled to avail Burlington instant scratch card
- Customer must show their receipt as a proof of purchase to the Promo Demonstrator to avail the Burlington instant scratch card
- Upon receiving the scratch card, promodizer shall write on a logbook the control no. of the scratch card, stamp and sign the receipt to make sure receipt is not used again
- Consumer must match THREE SIMILAR PICTURES on the silver scratch card to win instant prizes. E.G. "BURLINGTON/BURLINGTON/BURLINGTON"
- Any scratch card creating NO THREE SIMILAR PICTURE is automatically a non-winning card. E.G. "BURLINGTON/PUMA/BALLY"
- Upon claiming the prize, promo demonstrator will stamped "CLAIMED" and sign the scratch card
- Instant prizes can be redeemed at the Burlington display area (Look for Promo Demonstrator)
- All employees, tenants, suppliers, concessionaires, affiliates and manpower agencies of Burlington Industries, Ever Malls, Isetann Malls, Shopwise Stores, Manuels Stores, Puregold, Plaza Fair and BIG R including their relatives up to the second degree of consanguinity or affinity are disqualified from joining the promotion

- Participating Department stores as follows: MANELS (Manels Calamba, Manels San Pablo, Manels Balanga) EVER (Ever Grand Central, Ever Commonwealth, Ever Ortigas) PUREGOLD (Puregold Commonwealth, Puregold Dau Puregold Valenzuela, Puregold Tayuman, Puregold Makati, Puregold Bana, Puregold San Pedro, Puregold Kalitong, Puregold Pasig, Puregold Libertad, Puregold Shave), ISETANN (Isetann Cernado, Isetann Cubao, Isetann Recto) SHOPWISE (Shopwise Alabang, Shopwise Libs, Shopwise Antipolo, Shopwise Armetta, Shopwise Harrison, Shopwise Makati) PLAZA FAIR (Plaza Fair Baguio, Plaza Fair Makati, Plaza Fair Manila, Plaza Fair Cagayan, Fair Mart Cubao, BIG R (Big R Alabang, Big R Gallena, Big R Pasig, Big R Pioneer, Big R Cainta, Big R Cagayan, Big R Target Mall, Big R Lopa, Big R Los Banos)
- Promo Period is from November 15, 2006 - December 31, 2006
- One (1) winner of Php 10,000.00
- Six (6) winners of Php 5,000.00
- Two Hundred Fifty (250) winners of Php 100.00
- Five Hundred (500) winners of Php 50.00
- And lots Burlington prizes (calendar and socks) to be given away this Christmas!

Over Php 300, 000 worth of prizes to be given away...

So Cash Cash na!!

Burlington **Bio Fresh** **BALLY**

CAMP

PUMA

Available at

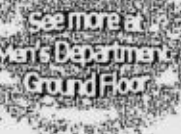


DEPARTMENT STORE
CARRIEDO-CUBAO-RECTO



UNTIL DECEMBER 31!!!

SAVE up to
50% DISCOUNT
ON SELECTED ITEMS



DID YOU KNOW

DE LA SALLE University along Taft Avenue, Manila was named after St. John Baptist de La Salle, patron of Christian teachers and founder of the Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools which helped educate poor kids in France. In 1911, the brothers opened their first school in the Philippines which offered primary, intermediate and three-year commercial secondary school programs.

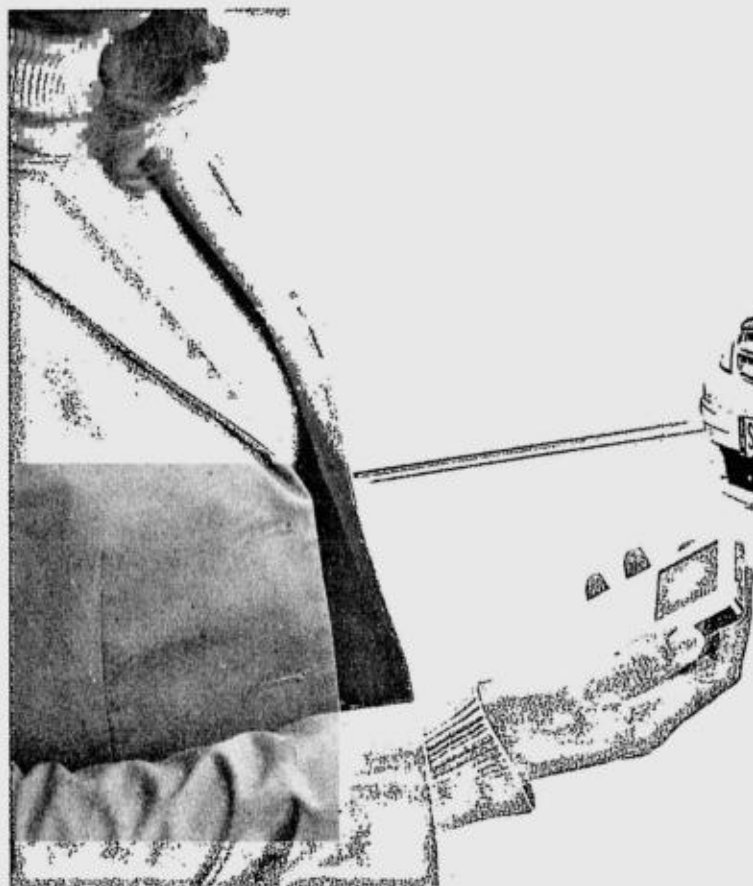
In 1917, the school was authorized to confer an associate in arts degree. In 1973, it opened its door to female students. Two years later, the school became a university.

DLSU currently has a population of 13,000 which includes administrators, the faculty and students.

Cyril L. Bonabente, Inquirer Research



WELBY, now 60, in undated photo.



Italy court rejects plea by sick man asking to die

ROME—AN ITALIAN COURT ON SATURDAY rejected a request by a paralyzed, terminally ill man who wants doctors to take him off life support in a case that has split the predominantly Catholic country, where euthanasia is illegal.

The pale, listless face of Piergiorgio Welby, 60, who suffers from advanced muscular dystrophy and is confined to bed but is lucid, has become one of the most recognized in Italy.

Speaking via a computer that interprets his eye movements, Welby has appeared on news programs and written to Italy's president asking to be taken off the respirator that keeps him alive so he can "find peace for my tortured and shattered body."

But in a 15-page verdict underscoring the legal complexity of the case, a Rome judge said that while Welby had a right to have the respirator removed, that right was not "concretely safeguarded" by Italian law.

The judge said doctors could not be ordered to switch off life-support machines. Only politicians and lawmakers could fill the legal vacuum and "provide answers to the loneliness and despair" of terminally ill patients, she said.

Euthanasia supporters, who will stage pro-Welby vigils in 50 Italian cities later on Saturday, attacked the verdict, while opponents hailed it. Welby, who has been ill for 40 years but has seen his condition worsen recently, can appeal against the ruling.

"This is a Pontius Pilate verdict, sacrificing the right of those who want to legally put an end to their suffering," said Silvio Viale, a doctor and a member of the Rose in the Fist party, which is part of Romano Prodi's center-left government.

Another leftist politician, Paolo Cento, said he would propose calling a special session of parliament on the issue.

But the center-right opposition defended the court's ruling.

"No one can order to kill," said former minister Rocco Buttiglione, a devout Catholic.

Welby's lawyers argue that doctors, by their own code of ethics, have no right to keep him alive against his wishes and that doing so amounts to what is known in Italy as "accanimento terapeutico"—forcefully administering life-sustaining treatment that does not cure the patient's illness.

Reuters

WORLD BRIEFS

Fire in Pakistan wedding kills 22, including bride

MULTAN, PAKISTAN—A fire erupted during a wedding ceremony in a central Pakistani town, killing 22 people including the bride, police said Sunday. At least 35 wedding guests were also injured in the tragedy in Jhok Ultra town, 100 km west of Multan late Saturday, local police officer Inkisar Khan said. He said most of the victims were women and young girls who were singing wedding songs when an electric short circuit gutted a makeshift tent that had been erected outside the bride's house. The mishap also triggered a stampede and several people were buried when the wall of a house in a narrow lane collapsed, he said.

AFP

7 Afghans freed from Guantanamo

KABUL, AFGHANISTAN—Seven Afghans freed after up to five years of detention at the US naval base at Guantanamo Bay arrived in Kabul on Saturday, desperate to get back to their home villages. The long-bearded men, mostly farmers and simple villagers, dressed in dark blue jeans and jackets, arrived at the offices of the Afghan Commission for Peace and Reconciliation here to receive an official guarantee of freedom from the Afghan government. Most of them were from Helmand, the southern province that has become the most volatile area of Afghanistan. Government and foreign troops there have come under repeated attack by the Taliban and other insurgents. One of the seven men, Haji Alef Muhammad, 62, from the Baghran district in Helmand, said he lost his brothers four years ago in a US bombardment of his village. After that, he said, he was taken into custody during a raid, and sent to Guantanamo. "Is this my fault that I believe in the words, 'There is no God but Allah?'" he said. "Other than that there is no witness and no evidence of my guilt." "We had to eat, pray and go to the toilet in the same cell that was 2 meters long and 2 meters wide," he said in disgust.

NYT

Seats for 5 people. Space for 7,500 bands.
At P100,000 downpayment*- it's music to your ears.

The B-Class.

Now featuring the iPod®, with Mercedes-Benz iPod® Interface Kit.

► Adjustable seats. Generous legroom. Versatile seating configurations. The B-Class is built to surprise with more than enough space for passengers and cargo alike.

► Now the B-Class brings you even more comfort, as it becomes available through flexible financing plans, including a P100,000 downpayment. It also comes with its own 30GB video

iPod®, with the Mercedes-Benz Interface Kit, for endless hours of entertainment on the road.

► The B-Class. Only at authorized Mercedes-Benz dealers.



Mercedes-Benz



Mercedes-Benz Global City. 32nd Street, corner Rizal Drive, Bonifacio Global City, Taguig 1634, Metro Manila TEL: 815 7777 MOBILE: 0917 800 2834
Mercedes-Benz Greenhills. 1008 EDSA Greenhills, San Juan 1502, Metro Manila TEL: 723 5808 MOBILE: (0917) 800 2798
EMAIL: mercedesbenz@cats.com.ph WEBSITE: www.mercedes-benz.com.ph

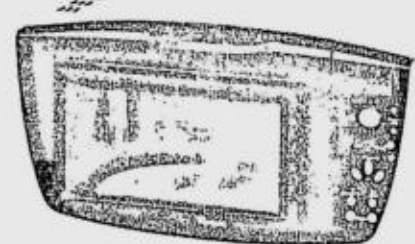


* Subject to bank approval through BPI Family Savings Bank. Premium items can be claimed upon delivery of the vehicle.

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 4934 Series of 2006

www.whirlpool.com.ph

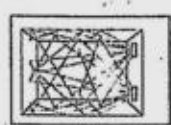
CREATING WAVES IN THE KITCHEN



AT318
22 liter Electronic Control
With crisp, grill, &
convection functions

Brightly radiating as the sun, the Whirlpool Microwave Oven has taken versatility to a whole new level as it can fry, bake, defrost, grill, reheat, all at the touch of a button. Since cooking should not be a grueling task, Whirlpool's excellent technology and practical design bring ease and convenience in every dish you may wish to whip up.

Now, you can spend more time enjoying life's simple pleasures.



Dual Emission System
Ensures perfectly even
cooking without any
cold spots.



Crisp Function
Allows food to be
cooked with a crispy
brown finish.



Quartz Grill Function
Its flat ceiling provides a
larger cavity area and
ultra short grilling time.



AVM585
28 liter Electronic Control
With grill function
Available in white, black, &
stainless colors



XT 25AG SS
25 liter
Easytronic control
with grill function
Stainless Steel



Max 18
18 liter
Electronic Control
With grill & crisp
functions

Showrooms:

Alabang G/F Alabang Home Depot, Lot 103-117 Alabang Zapote Road cor. Fillinvest Avenue, Westgate Alabang, Muntinlupa City, 771-2272 • Cebu 3/F Sogo Home and Office Center, Ayala Avenue, Cebu Business Park, Cebu City, (032) 232-1001 • Makati 2/F Arvon Emporium, Pasay Road, Makati City 843 5046 • Ortigas 2/F Automatic Center, Ortigas Home Depot, Julia Vargas Avenue, Ortigas Center, 615 9010 • Quezon City #22 D Tuazon St. cor L. Castillo St. Quezon City, 732 7370 loc 101-103



WHIRLPOOL QUALITY EXPRESS SERVICE



SENSING THE DIFFERENCE

The WORLD

Editor Luverne B. Gueco

Ex-spy: Litvinenko killed over dossier

The PSBank Home Loan Lower. Longer. Faster. Fixed.

With rates even lower than before, owning your home gets even easier, through the PSBank Home Loan. Fixed for up to 25 years, longer than most other banks offer. Faster too. In fact, apply now, and if you don't get a response within 5 days, we'll give you 1% off your first year's interest.

Fixing Period	Interest Rate
1 - year	9.00%
2 - year	9.25%
3 - year	9.50%
5 - year	9.75%
10 - year	11.00%
25 - year	11.50%

* Rates apply for new term loan releases and purpose is acquisition or construction. Refinancing available with term and fixing period up to 15 years only. Rates subject to change without prior notice.

Also available in 15 and 20-year fixing periods.

Text us: PSBANK HOME RATE <your name> <your landline nos.> <your email address> then send to 391-772 for Smart or 0917-890-2327 for Globe and other networks • Visit us: www.psbank.com.ph • Email us: info@psbank.com.ph • Call us: 845-8772

T.G.I.F.
Thank Goodness It's Five days.

Apply now at any
PSBank branch
nationwide.



LONDON—MURDERED Russian spy Alexander Litvinenko was killed because of an eight-page dossier he had compiled on a powerful Russian figure for a British company, a business associate told the BBC on Saturday.

Litvinenko died in London on Nov. 23 after receiving a lethal dose of radioactive polonium 210. On his deathbed, he accused Russian President Vladimir Putin of ordering his killing. The Kremlin has denied involvement.

Ex-spy Yuri Shvets, who is based in the United States, said Litvinenko had been employed by Western companies to provide information on potential Russian clients before they committed to investment deals in the former Soviet Union.

He said Litvinenko was asked by a British company to write reports on five Russians and asked Shvets for help. The British company was not named. Shvets said he had passed Litvinenko the information for the dossier on one individual in September.

The BBC said it had obtained extracts of the dossier, which British detectives also have, from an unnamed source. The BBC said the report contained damaging personal details about a "very highly placed member of Putin's administration."

"Litvinenko obtained the report on Sept. 20," Shvets told the BBC. "Within the next two weeks he gave the report to Andrei Lugovoy. I believe that triggered the entire assassination."

Lugovoy is a former Russian spy who told Reuters on Thursday he had known Litvinenko

YOU ARE IT
Time unveiled its 'Person of the Year' for 2006 on Dec. 16 as—You, the creators and consumers of user-generated Internet content like video-file sharing site YouTube and social network MySpace.

REUTERS



casually for nearly a decade and had worked closely with him during 2005, meeting him about 10 times.

Shvets said Litvinenko had given the dossier to Lugovoy to show him how reports on Russian companies and individuals should be presented to Western clients.

However, Shvets said he believed Lugovoy was still employed by the Russian secret service the FSB, the successor to the KGB, and had leaked Litvinenko's dossier to the Russian figure.

Shvets said the report had led to the British company pulling out of a deal, losing the Russian figure potential earnings of "dozens of millions of dollars."

Lugovoy and businessman Dmitry Kovtun met Litvinenko at a central London hotel, soon after he had met Italian KGB expert Mario Scaramella at a sushi bar. Litvinenko felt ill that night and two days later was admitted to hospital.

"Litvinenko told me he met Lugovoy and other Russians and

they offered him tea that wasn't made in front of him, said Shvets.

Lugovoy told Reuters in an interview that he met Litvinenko in October and November but he has repeatedly denied having anything to do with his death.

Litvinenko never blamed Lugovoy publicly for his murder before dying in the London hospital. However, Shvets said he had come around to that possibility.

"I asked Litvinenko who did you think did it?" Shvets told the BBC. "He immediately said Scaramella. For three days he stubbornly reiterated it was Scaramella and only on the fourth day did he admit he met Lugovoy and other Russians."

"I stopped communicating with Litvinenko when it was diagnosed he had been poisoned. But I spoke to his wife and she told me Litvinenko shared my opinion," Shvets told the BBC.

The BBC said senior Scotland Yard officers had interviewed Shvets.

Reuters

Tensions high as Abbas calls for early elections

GAZA CITY, GAZA STRIP—Dozens of gunmen attacked a training base of Mahmoud Abbas' presidential guard before dawn on Sunday, just hours after the Palestinian leader announced he would end nine months of Hamas rule by calling early elections.

The assault blamed on Hamas touched off a fierce 20-minute battle, killed a guardsman and marked a new stage in escalating fighting between Hamas and Abbas-allied security forces: the attackers carefully planned it, cutting power to the camp first, and chose a highly symbolic target.

The gunmen set fire to trailers and tents. Only about a dozen guardsmen were in the camp, located about 700 meters from Abbas' office and residence. Abbas was in the West Bank at the time of the attack. The assailants fled after reinforcements were sent to the base from other Presidential Guard camps.

Hamas denied involvement, but security officials said the attackers were from the Islamic militant group. The assault came several days after Hamas accused a top Abbas ally, Gaza strongman Mohammed Dahlan, of being behind a shooting attack on the entourage of Prime Minister Ismail Haniyeh of Hamas.

Dahlan, who has denied involvement, was to return to Gaza from the West Bank on Sunday, but postponed the trip without reason.

In response to Abbas' call for early elections, Hamas had urged its supporters to take to the streets in protest. On Saturday evening, thousands of Hamas loyalists marched across Gaza and 18 Palestinians were wounded in clashes between the two political camps.

In seeking early elections, Abbas took a bold gamble that could end up driving the Palestinians



ABBAS

REUTERS

toward all-out civil war, strengthen Hamas and further put off peace efforts with Israel.

Hamas accused Abbas of trying to topple its government and promised to block the elections. "This is a real coup," said Foreign Minister Mahmoud Zahar, a Hamas hard-liner.

Hamas' landslide election in January parliamentary elections split the Palestinian leadership into two camps. One, led by Abbas, seeks peace with Israel; the other, led by Hamas, is sworn to the Jewish state's destruction. The infighting has often degenerated into violence, and last week, tensions reached their highest peak in years.

Abbas tried to end the power struggle by bringing Hamas into a more moderate coalition with his Fatah Party, but Hamas refused to pay the price he demanded—recognizing Israel and renouncing violence.

"We have a crisis. We have an authority with two heads. So what do we do? Bullets or ballots?" asked Saeb Erekat, an aide to Abbas. "Abu Mazen said ballots," he said, using Abbas' nickname.

AP

Have a Merry CheVital Christmas!

Make Christmas sparkle with the premium goodness of a CheVital Queso de Bola. Expertly made from top quality imported ingredients and carefully aged to perfection, taste the distinct difference in every bite. It's a flavor everyone is sure to love.

Noche Buena is a grand celebration with CheVital Queso de Bola.

MANUFACTURED BY:
NEW ZEALAND CREAMERY INC.
NZC, Inc. MAKATI CITY, PHILIPPINES
newzealand@pdtel.net • fax# 8959675/8904193 • tel# 896-5937, 895-0853, 890-4185, 890-4191

500g 750g



WHAT'S INSIDE

■ **Barrera can wait—Pacquiao**
/A30

SPORTS

E-mail: pr_sports@inquirer.com.ph

Editor Teddyvic S. Melendres

Text us your feedback: inquirer.sprt name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Miñoza 2nd in Volvo golf



Frankie Miñoza tees off at the start of the final round.

AFP

Filipino ace rally fizzles on No. 17

THAI SUPERSTAR THONGCHAI Jaidee survived a double-bogey on the 18th and a hard-finishing Frankie Miñoza of the Philippines to rule the Volvo Masters of Asia yesterday at the Thai Country Club.

Jaidee, the former paratrooper, shot a closing level 72 for an 11-under 277 total that snapped a 22-month winless spell which also reaffirmed his status as his country's No. 1 pro.

Miñoza, meanwhile, sustained a blazing comeback from a first round 76, shooting a final round 70 to finish a stroke back and settle for second place.

The 44-year-old Miñoza, a regular campaigner in the lucrative Japanese Tour, rattled off three straight birdies from No. 7 to make the turn at 33 and briefly tie Jaidee for the lead.

But a double bogey 6 on the 17th hole dashed his hopes of a victory.

"I feel very happy, I was very lucky this week," said Thongchai, whose victory, worth \$104,000, moved him to second place in the final UBS Order of Merit with earnings of \$444,736.

"It is good to win in Thailand. I feel great," added the Thai in an interview with the Asian Tour website.

Miñoza won \$71,075 as runner-up and finished 28th overall in the Order of Merit with total earnings of \$138,378 in 13 tournaments.

Charlie Wi of Korea salvaged third another stroke back after a 69, while Thai Thaworn Wiratchant, after a bogey and double bogey on the 15th and 16th holes for a 73, settled for fourth spot with a 280 total.

Que struggles

Filipino Angelo Que struggled to a final round 76 and finished in a tie for 19th spot along with Simon Yates and Chris Rogers with 289 tallies. Que wound up with total earnings of \$97,509 in 24 events.

Juvic Pagunsan, the last Filipino in the elite field, skied to an 80 and finished in 54th place. He nevertheless will be named the Tour's Rookie of the Year as No. 7 overall with winnings of \$288,794 in 14 tournaments.

Prom Meesawat secured solo fifth place after shooting a 71 for 281, even as Asian No. 1 Jeev Milkha Singh finished tied for sixth with three others after a 72 left him with a 282.

Thongchai's popular home triumph extended his impressive streak of winning a title every year since 2000 and also tied Thaworn's record eight victories in Asia.

But he did it the hard way. With a three-shot cushion going into the last hole, the former paratrooper made a jittery finish, driving into thick rough on 18, finding a bunker before getting to the green side in four. **Musong R. Castillo**

SONY
like.no.other™

BRAVIA

The Ultimate TV

SXR
Super Resolution Engine

BRAVIA ENGINE PRO

2.0 FULL HD
1080P HIGH RESOLUTION

FEEL EVERY COLOR

LIVE COLOR CREATION

FULL DIGITAL PROCESSING

ANALOG SIGNAL (A) → A/D Converter → 3D Comb Filter → Image Capture → NE and IP Converter → Color Processor → Panel Driver → LCD Panel

HDMI SIGNAL (D) (High Definition)

DIGITAL SIGNAL (D) (Standard Definition)

SYRD (S-SERIES)
Approximately 35% richer color

SCCD (X-SERIES)
Approximately 30% richer color

LCD (V2-SERIES)
Approximately 30% richer color

Choose The Bravia That Fits Your Lifestyle

70"
60"
50"

R-Series: The Ultimate TV
Ultimate Picture Quality and Super High Contrast

KS-70R200A	P399,990
KS-60R200A	P269,990
KS-50R200A	P229,990

55"
50"
42"

E2-Series: A Grand Viewing Experience
Bigger Size, High Contrast, Low Power Consumption

KF-55E200A	P179,990
KF-50E200A	P159,990
KF-42E200A	P119,990

52"
46"
40"

X-Series: Timeless and Sophisticated FULL HD
Powerful 2 Megapixel Resolution, and Richer colors

KLV-52X200A	P699,990
KLV-46X200A	P349,990
KLV-40X200A	P279,990

46"
40"
32"

V2-Series: Vibrant and Dynamic Colors
Elegant Design, Striking Images and Excellent Color Creation

KLV-46V200A	P289,990
KLV-40V200A	P219,990
KLV-32V200A	P149,990

46"
40"
37"
32"

S2-Series: Superior Technological Performance
Incredible Color and Clarity with High Contrast

KLV-46S200A	P259,990
KLV-40S200A	P189,990
KLV-32S200A	P109,990
KLV-26S200A	P89,990

32"

S-Series: True Colors and True Details
High Definition Resolution

KLV-S32A10	P89,990
------------	---------

www.sony.com.ph **CCC (02) 878-7600** **0917-8077669**

SONY
like.no.other™

Christmas Treasures

Promo period: November 10, 2006 to January 15, 2007

2006

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 4098 Series of 2006

swabe ang dardang
Lakas ng hatak
Max Diesel MAX

PETRON DIESEL MAX

Above all diesels.

Barrera can wait—Manny

By Musong R. Castillo

GENERAL SANTOS CITY—A FIRST daughter. A P40 million mansion. All the money and adulation he could ever ask for.

So what more could someone like Manny Pacquiao ever want?

"Nothing more, everything is perfect. I have all that I need for myself and my family," Pacquiao told the INQUIRER in Filipino yesterday morning during a short break in entertaining hundreds of friends and guests who attended the baptism of Mary Divine Grace.

What he actually wants is something which he cannot do on his own. But he hopes to play a small part doing what so many popular people from various fields before him have tried in vain.

"If there's one wish that I would like to come true is for our country to finally be united," Pacquiao said. "I hope that our leaders finally come to terms so that everything in our country would improve."

It was not quite the answer the INQUIRER was looking for, especially from a pug at the prime of his God-given talents who, just last month, destroyed a legend in Erik Morales in a mega-buck fight in Las Vegas.

But it was clear that Pacquiao's mind was not in boxing. After all, he has to attend to a distinguished list of guests who stood as godparents to easily the luckiest daughter born this year.

Ilocos Sur Gov. Chavit Singson, actor Rudy Fernandez, media mogul Gabby Lopez, Bacolod Mayor Bing Leonardia, sports patron Hermie Esguerra, Charo Santos-Concio, Rose Flaminiano, among others, were some of the big names present during the christening



MANNY PACQUIAO (center) and wife Jinkee (right, partly hidden) hold daughter Mary Divine Grace during the baptismal ceremonies yesterday at the Our Lady of the Good Voyage and Peace Parish in Gen. Santos. Among the sponsors are, from left, television magnate Gabby Lopez, San Miguel president Ramon Ang, sports patron Hermie Esguerra and Bacolod City mayor Bing Leonardia. **MUSONG R. CASTILLO**

of Pacquiao's third child at the Our Lady of Peace and Good Voyage Parish here.

Manny got no special treatment from the church, which asked that he pay the same P300 it charged 11 other parents during the mass baptism ceremony which drew thousands of well-wishers.

With the enormous entourage of godparents, the officiating priest, Rev. Vic Supranes, asked the crowd for order numerous times.

It was actually a grand day for the "Pacman," with his newly constructed mansion getting blessed in the afternoon before he celebrated his 28th

birthday later in the night.

Hundreds stood in line at the gate of his new home, many of them waiting for the first batch of goodies the boxing icon traditionally gives out as Christmas present.

Trainer Freddie Roach and manager Shelly Finkel were also around, giving their foremost ward the support while serving as a reminder that Pacquiao is set to return to the ring soon.

So when the INQUIRER tried to push Pacquiao for an answer on what's next in his boxing career, the former bakery helper still managed to stick to his old answer, but with a twist.

"If these (while raising both fists) could help unite this country of ours, with God's help, then let's do it," Pacquiao said. "I will fight all the fights I can get and help this country become one."

"Yes, (Marco Antonio) Barrera (the reigning World Boxing Council super featherweight champion) is a possibility," he added. "Of course, a world title would make it (his wish list) truly complete. But we're (his management team) not rushing it."

That, in a nutshell, is the answer the INQUIRER—and this country—was waiting for.

Real Spicy rules Gold Cup

By Musong R. Castillo

CALL REAL SPICY THE season's real champion from now on.

After wriggling out of traffic in the early going, Real Spicy thundered down the final half of the 34th edition of the Presidential Gold Cup yesterday to book the biggest win of his career and put a lock on the Horse of the Year award as well.

The four-year-old chestnut son of Real Quiet out of Spicy Tale remained undefeated in 11 starts this year, breaking the Santa Ana Park record for the 2,050-meter race after clocking two minutes and 8.6 seconds under Jessie B. Guce.

Empire King, the 2004 winner, put up a gallant fight under Lord Santos despite carrying 59-kilograms, holding the lead until the six-horse field entered the final quarter before faltering and settling for second place, about three lengths behind.

Sent off the as overwhelming first choice, Real Spicy labored hard in the middle of the pack early with Empire King setting the pace, Wind Runner running second by the rail and Native Land in third.

The opening came in the mid-backstretch, and Real Spicy, responding to a solitary Guce whip, shot ahead of Empire King before the handsome horse finished off his foes with a burst.

With quarter times of 28', 24', 25', 24 and 26, Real Spicy actually broke the record of 2:09 he set just two weeks ago in ruling the Philtobo Classic, also over the game Empire King.

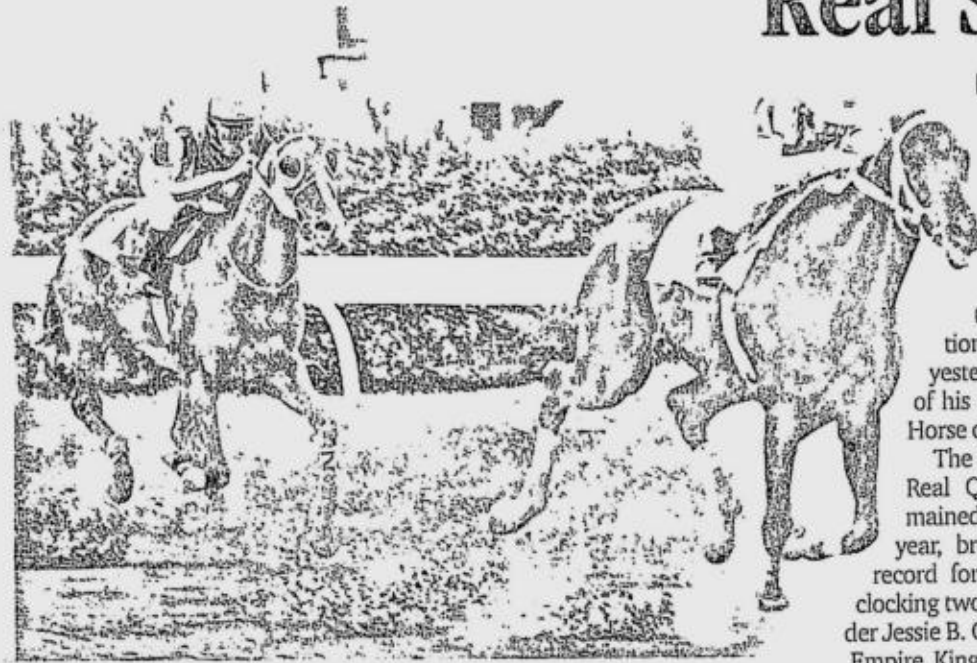
Real Spicy's 26th win in 37 starts, worth P1.5 million, established him as a true superhorse in the mold of retired stablemate Wind Blown, also a former Gold Cup winner.

"There were some anxious moments there," said owner Hermie Esguerra. "You can never really celebrate until your horse crosses the finish line. All credit goes to my team, which has prepared Real Spicy so well."

"We still have another big race to run," Esguerra added. "And I just hope that he keeps his form."

Real Spicy will see action in the Classic Championship Stakes at the end of the year, the race being billed as the unofficial all-comers' championship with both local and imported chargers eligible.

Empire King, the five-year-old chestnut son of Perfect Halo out of New Zealand broodmare Carta Nueve, settled for the P500,000 runner-up's purse. Native Land, under Louie D. Balboa, salvaged third place worth P250,000.



REAL SPICY (right) leaves Empire King behind. **RODEL ROTONI**

SPORTSWATCH

Ex-UE woodpusher shines

FORMER UNIVERSITY OF THE EAST (UE) STANDOUT STEPHEN MANZANERO scored 6.5 points after seven games of play to rule the 9th Alay kay Mayor Marides Carlos Fernando (MCF) 1900 and below Active Chess second leg late Saturday at the Marikina Sports Park in Marikina City. Bobby Dela Paz and Glenn Caballero finished with 6.0 points apiece to tie for 2nd and 3rd places. Ervil Villa, leg one winner, had 5.5 points and finished third this time. Adjudged category winners were Aurora Kim Dantes (top lady), Gerald Feriol (top junior), MJ Turqueza, Wilbert Pilarta and Jared Cruz (top kiddies). Meanwhile, the Christmas edition of the Mayor's Cup Inter Barangay Active Chess Team Championships got under way yesterday in the same venue. **Marlon Barnardino, contributor**

Koi Village brings down top seed

KOI VILLAGE OUTLASTED JD CLOTHING, 71-63, TO RULE THE FCBBL basketball Championship recently at the Lyceum gym. Bannered by Jessie Ong and Michael Young, the team, managed by Jimi Lim and Terry Que, showed great resolve down the stretch to pull the rug from under the top seeded JD Clothing and notch its second title in the tournament. Young topscored for the Eugene Cheng-mentored Koi Village with 25 points. Ong was later adjudged MVP of the tournament. Other members of the team are Johnny Ang, Eddie Sy, Albert Lee, Manny Ang, Gerald Tan, Arthur Lee, Paquito Ngo, Oliver Sy, Jimmy Co, Johnson Lao and William Tiu.

Las Piñas 'Timbangan' cockfest fires off

WITH OVER 200 ENTRIES LISTED, THE PAMASKONG HANDOG FASTEST win one-cock Timbangan of Las Piñas Coliseum takes off at 8 a.m. today. Hosts Art Perez and Mike Macaraeg said the fastest win champion will be chosen after every 10 fights and will receive P20,000. The second placer gets P10,000. Meanwhile, the Christmas 4-cock derby will be held on Dec. 23, with more than 50 entries already confirmed. At stake is P500,000 with an entry fee of P8,800. Call 873-1040 and 874-3910.

Christmas Rambulan 6-cocker up

BIG-TIME COCKERS FROM DIFFERENT PROVINCES COMPRISE THE second batch of participants seeing action in today's Christmas Rambulan 6-cock derby at San Juan Coliseum. Backed up by Sagupaan Complexor 3000, the event starts at 5 p.m. with some 70 matches on tap. Expected to figure prominently today are the entries of Rep. Claude Bautista of Davao, brothers Bebot and Max Roxas of Tarlac, Jun Topacio of Cavite, Gerry Ramos and Mayor Nene Aguilar of Las Piñas, Jack and Jun Yap of Bacolor Cockpit, Bobbit Ples and Sam Mendoza of Cainta, Ricky Valencia and Butch Nunez of Pasig, Eric dela Rosa and Pepito Ngo of Pasay group, World Slasher Cup champion Honey Yu and Anthony Lim of Quezon Province, Tony Panopio and Tony Lasala of Batangas, among others. All qualifiers advance to the 3-cock finals on Wednesday, Dec. 20. A participant must score at least one point to enter the championship round. Calling 725-5369 and 725-6563.

70 fights in Makati 'Salpuhan' today

THE FOURTH ELIMINATION ROUND OF THE P3M PAMASKONG SALPUKAN 6-cock derby is set at 6 p.m. at the Makati Coliseum. Four participants tallied three wins each in Saturday's round—Ed Suyat (EBS), Ric Aquino (Anahita), Lito Orillaza (Winning Time Jobo) and A. T. Lainez (Brgy. 6). The last day of elimination will be on Saturday, Dec. 23. Reservation of cockhouses for Saturday's battle is still accepted. The total guaranteed prize is P3 million for an entry fee of only P11,000. Call 896-3545 and 895-6475.

Patrimonio son, daughters also on the rise

IN HUDDLE



Beth Celis

IT MUST HAVE been around this same time last year when I last had a long talk with Purefoods team manager Alvin Patrimonio.

At that time, the four-time PBA MVP was eagerly awaiting the arrival of wife Cindi, son Angelo and daughters Christine and Clarice who were all coming home to spend the Christmas holidays here.

They were flying home from the United States where Alvin's kids trained under experts and competed in New York and Florida for 4 months.

The plan was to proceed to Spain for further training after the vacation in the Philippines.

Yesterday at a party, I got an update from Alvin regarding his family. He said it was a lonely Christmas for him last year because Cindi and the children didn't make it back in time for the holidays.

They couldn't book a flight.

They finally made it in January, stayed here till May, then flew to Spain for further training. Angelo, the eldest and only son, stayed behind.

"Angelo has switched to basketball," Alvin said. "He realized that he may not have a future in tennis because it's a little late in the day when he undertook the US training last year."

Angelo was already 17 then.

"He's in third year high school now at San Beda College where he plays varsity basketball under coach Ato Badolato. He is six feet flat and plays the second and third spots," said Alvin.

Assessing his son, Alvin said his basic assets are quickness and speed which he developed while playing tennis.

"However, he has to improve his skills," the four-time Most Valuable Player of the PBA said.

Angelo is also into acting, according to Alvin. And he appears at a regular ABS-CBN show.

Meanwhile, reports from wife Cindi in Valencia, Spain, have been very encouraging.

"The girls are doing very well. They have both improved significantly in the past six months since they enrolled at the tennis school there. Christine, 15, is now representing her school in tournaments, along with three Russians," Alvin said.

Clarice, only 12, may have the greater potential, according to her tutors.

The girls plan to head straight to the WTA (Women's Tennis Association) where Clarice has played once. "Hindi na dadaan sa juniors," Alvin said.

This Christmas, instead of the girls flying back home, Alvin and Angelo will take a trip to Valencia for a Spanish Christmas, which is not celebrated there, according to Alvin.

"Feast of the Three Kings daw po ang sine-celebrate doon," he said.

Thailand, 12 golds, sets a record in cruelty

GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO, PRESIDENT of her protesting republic, did not happen to be the Queen of Thailand. As a result, she failed to get through when she phoned Joan Tipon, second of two RP boxing gold medalists in the Doha Asian Games.

The peppery President of the Philippines, her voice drowned out by accompanying hysteria, wanted to do what was urgent and appropriate: congratulate a hardworking victor who had made the republic proud.

She failed, but was not exactly miserable. Mrs. Arroyo must've suddenly discovered the happy limitations of her office.

It was a lot easier talking to a pampered, obedient election commissioner than to a poor but honest amateur boxer.

Later, Tipon would admit hearing, rather faintly, a squeaky voice on the cellphone passed on to him from out of nowhere.

Tipon apologized saying he thought it was a reporter of GMA television on the line.

Tipon and all other Filipino winners in the Doha Asiad are scheduled to be feted at the Malacañang Palace.

Indeed, all that glittered in the Asian Games were gold medals, of which mighty China had a lordly haul.

But the biggest medal, based on tales from Bangkok, was the welterweight gold captured in mythical fashion by Manus Boonjumnung of Thailand.

The Kingdom of Thailand won a total of 12 gold medals, against four by the Philippines, thereby unofficially retaking sporting supremacy in the Southeast Asian region.

Boonjumnung's gold was royally magnified by a call all the way from the Palace of His Majesty, King Bhumibol Adulyadej of Thailand.

Boonjumnung, who won his country's third

BARE EYE

Recab Trinidad



Olympic boxing gold in Athens last year, sank to his knees, crying, upon having been talked to by his King.

Who knows? Maybe it was the first time King Bhumibol had immediately addressed a victorious subject, right inside the boxing ring. Boonjumnung, meanwhile, clasped and flashed a framed colored picture of his King on top of the ring.

His Royal Highness could not be blamed for allowing himself to get carried away.

Boonjumnung's story was not the simple story of a comebacking boxer.

His was the heartwarming religion-themed story of great repentance and supreme redemption.

It was a story of a hero who had lost his soul to the devil, so to say, before recomposing himself and coming full circle en route to the gold.

O.K., if Filipinos feel endlessly rewarded by Manny Pacquiao's great exploits, Boonjumnung's story was the sort proud Thais love to tell the whole world.

Everything now points to Boonjumnung representing his country to defend his title in the 2008 Beijing Olympics.

Now, hold it, please.

The Thai success story does not end there.

You probably failed to notice it, but Boonjumnung, in emphasizing dominance over his overmatched Korean foe, also committed unforgivable wickedness.

How? He treated his foe with record cruelty by making the pummeled Korean appear like stinking garbage.

The Thai hero repeatedly scrubbed his gloves—with dirty disdain, of course—on the face of his outclassed foe.

This, he did, but only after taunting and belittling his adversary through chimp-like prancing.

A jab with an open glove or a sneering slap would've been forgivable.

But it was obviously the devil singing again as Boonjumnung squandered his superiority by exposing an ugly, tyrannical side of the Thai soul.

Boonjumnung's dastardly act, equal to spitting in the face of the foe, was a pure disregard of the Olympic ideals of human development and dignity.

Take it from one who had covered a good number of international boxing tournaments.

The supreme foulness Boonjumnung essayed as he defiled his foe in that gold medal bout was so far unequaled in amateur boxing annals.

Anyway, knowing the humility, not to mention the legendary spirituality, of the King of Thailand, it was easy to surmise His Highness had also reminded Boonjumnung about the discipline required of big winners.

This could be the reason the over-excited Thai boxing hero knelt and cried after that phone call from his King.

Of course, it's incumbent upon the new head of the Amateur International Boxing Association (Aiba) to ensure there would be no repeat of that Thai atrocity in future international meets.

That's if they are to send the message that the disturbing era of the previous head of the Aiba, the unlamented Anwar Chowdry, has finally ended.

A Garden variety brawl

Anthony, 9 others ejected as Knicks, Nuggets rumble

NEW YORK—NBA SCORING leader Carmelo Anthony and nine other players were ejected after an ugly incident marred the end of the Denver Nuggets' 123-100 victory over the New York Knicks at Madison Square Garden on Saturday.

All five players on the floor for both teams were tossed from the game after a fight started following a flagrant foul by New York's Mardy Collins on Denver's JR Smith.

Smith, who had just pulled off what the Knicks felt was a showboat dunk, which may well have led to Collins pulling him down hard, jumped up from the foul and confronted Collins verbally.

New York's Nate Robinson stepped in and was shoved from behind by Anthony. Robinson and Smith then fell into the crowd, scrapping.

Things seemed to be settling down when Anthony connected with a right-hand punch to Collins's face. New York's Jared Jeffries chased Anthony to the other end of the court, but was held back from the Denver player.

The NBA office, which is located near Madison Square Garden, re-



DENVER'S Carmelo Anthony takes a hand to the throat from New York Knicks' Jared Jeffries as Jeffries is restrained by Nuggets' Eduardo Najera.

fused to comment, saying the incident was under review. Fines and suspensions are sure to follow with the league still sensitive following an incident between the Indiana Pacers and Detroit Pistons in 2004.

"I feel bad for the league, I feel bad for the Denver Nuggets and the New York Knicks," Denver coach George Karl told reporters.

"Very poor display of respecting basketball and respecting the game in the best place in the world to play basketball."

Knicks coach Isiah Thomas said: "Clearly this isn't the way we or the NBA wants to be perceived."

Thomas met with Anthony at center court and said later he told the player he and other Denver starters should not have even been

in the game with the Nuggets ahead by 19 in the last two minutes.

Smith appeared to have a red mark along the left side of his cheek and was yelling as he was escorted back to the locker room.

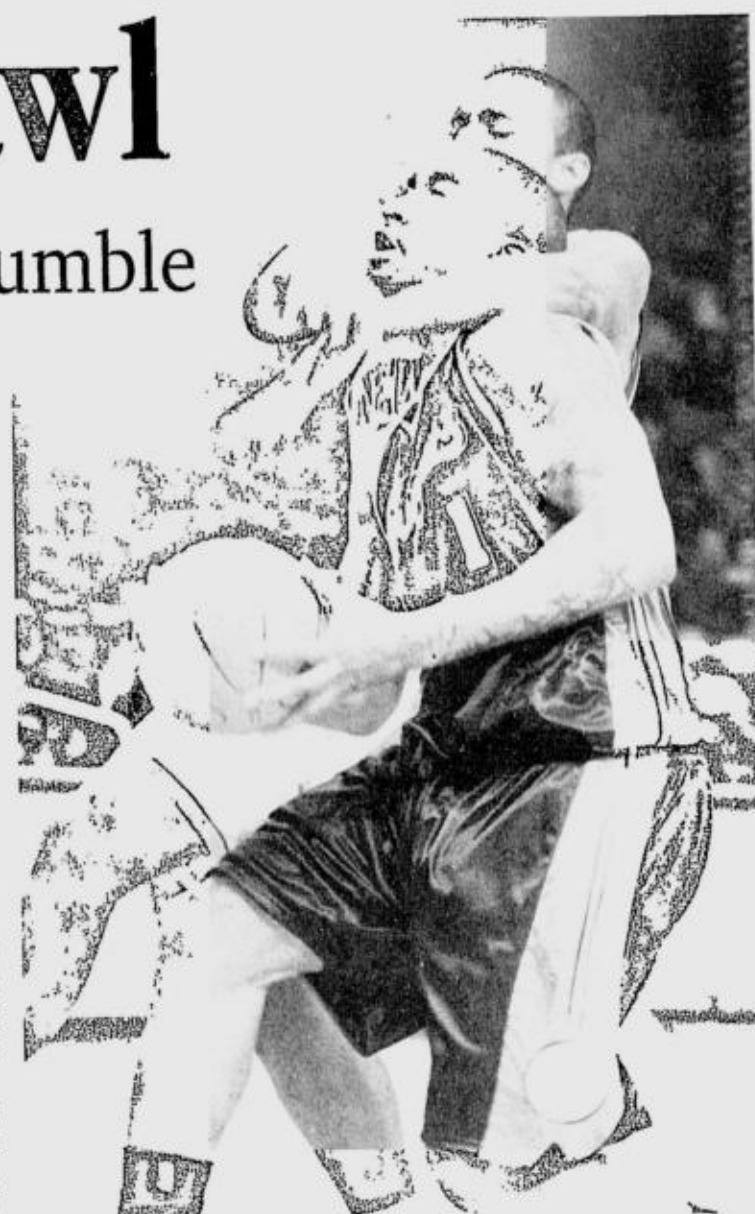
At Sacramento, California, Steve Nash and Phoenix overcame a slow start to tie a franchise record with its 14th straight win, a 105-98 triumph over the Kings.

Nash was held scoreless for nearly the entire first half as the Suns fell behind by double digits early before rallying. Nash finished with 16 points and 12 assists.

Phoenix's streak matches the franchise record set from Dec. 1-30, 1992, en route to the team's last NBA finals appearance. The Suns will try to break the mark at home on Tuesday night against Toronto.

Reuters, AP

COMPLETE NBA RESULTS: Chicago 106, Atlanta 104, OT; Orlando 81, Cleveland 74; Boston 106, Charlotte 100; Miami 98, Memphis 90; Denver 123, New York 100; San Antonio 103, Philadelphia 98; Dallas 90, New Orleans 79; Detroit 90, New Jersey 82; Milwaukee 108, Minnesota 104; Phoenix 105, Sacramento 98



THE FOUL that started it all: New York's Mardy Collins clips Denver's JR Smith in the neck on a breakaway play. The foul triggered a free-for-all at the Madison Square Garden.

AP

Espiritu adds defense and more to Comets bid

By Jasmine W. Payo

ELMER ESPIRITU HAS ALWAYS PLAYED AN integral part in Mail and More's defensive game.

Although he accepts his role willingly, the 6-foot-4 Espiritu got both ends of the court well covered in the Comets' recent triumph in the PBL Silver Cup.

The Comets, banking on Espiritu's late-game heroics, triumphed over Cebuana Lhuillier-Pera Padala, 95-90, in double-overtime last Thursday.

Displaying his defensive prowess, Espiritu blocked Macky Escalona's potential game-winning shot to preserve the deadlock at 73-73.

After forging overtime, Espiritu starred in another crucial play to extend the game to a second extra period. This time, he scored on a follow-up at the buzzer to knot the contest at 82.

"Coach just told me to crash the boards, get the rebounds and go hard," said Espiritu, named Player of the Week by the PBL Press Corps.

But the 21-year-old Espiritu clearly did more than that as he finished with 10 points, 11 rebounds and three blocks.

Mail and More coach Lawrence Chongson cited the "individual athleticism" of Espiritu as among the key factors that pushed the Comets on top with Hapee-PCU and the Henkel Sista at 5-2.

"I expected our team to be strong; we just have to keep our focus," said Espiritu, who had also been playing as an effective power forward-center for the University of the East in the UAAP.

But this week, Espiritu will also be flashing his award-winning slamdunks in the PBL Showcase.

Espiritu, the reigning UAAP-NCAA All Star slamdunk champion, will shoot for another title at 4 p.m. on Wednesday at the Olivarez College Sports Center in Parañaque.

Spring, Cotta make finals

CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY—SPRING-TAGAYTAY and back-to-back champion Ozamiz Cotta knocked out their respective rivals Saturday to arrange a showdown for the 2006 Spring Cooking Oil-NBC National Cup basketball crown at the Corpus Christi College gym here.

The Cooking Oil Masters of NBC president Nataniel "Tac" Padilla and league EVP Mayor Bambo Tolentino held off Gov. Manny Pinol's North Cotabato Braves, 78-73, while Mayor Reynaldo Parojinog's Ozamiz cagers came from behind to nip the Pagadian Explorers in overtime, 96-90, to sweep the best-of-three semifinal series.

Spring-Tagaytay and Ozamiz start their best-of-three championship series at 7 p.m. today at the MSU-IIT gym in Iligan City. Game 2 is scheduled Wednesday at the Gov. Angel Medina Sr. gym in Ozamiz City.

"It's going to be a tough series, but we're confident that the boys will deliver," jointly stated Padilla and Tolentino, whose partnership produced the team's best ever showing so far in the tournament.

On the other hand, Mayor Parojinog feels that his boys will make it three in a row after ousting the star-studded Explorers of Mayor Sammy Co.

Ogilvy pounces on tumbling Tiger



THOUSAND OAKS, CALIFORNIA—GEOFF Ogilvy moved into contention with a fast start Saturday in the Target World Challenge. He wound up alone in the lead thanks to a sloppy finish by tournament host Tiger Woods.

Ogilvy birdied four of his first seven holes, then hit 8-iron inside 2 feet on the final hole for a birdie that gave him a 5-under 67 and a one-shot lead over Woods (70) and Chris DiMarco (68) going into the final round of the final tournament of the year.

Ogilvy was at 11-under 205.

Woods birdied his first two holes in a cold, miserable rain, shared the lead with Ogilvy through sunshine on the back nine, then got a huge break on the par-5 16th that ultimately worked against him.

He pulled his 3-wood so far left that it was headed toward a hazard when it caught a cart path and wound up against the curb, giving him free relief on the side of the hill. Instead of laying up, he had just enough of an opening to go for the green, but hit the next 3-wood into a hazard, and swung hard just to escape into a bunker. He failed to save par, however, slipping back into a tie for the lead.

DiMarco birdied his last three holes for a 68

and was at 206, earning a spot in the final group Sunday, a good chance to end another winless year on the US PGA Tour with a \$1.35 million consolation prize.

Sweden's Henrik Stenson was tied for the lead through 12 holes, but took two double bogeys and wound up five shots behind after a 73. The Swede found two greenside bunkers on the par-5 13th to take double bogey, then hit a drive so far right on the 18th that he wound up playing down the adjacent ninth fairway. His third shot was in the collar of a steep bunker, and he did well to get that one on the green.

Paul Casey shot 70 and was at 209, with David Toms (68) another shot behind.

AP

Lascuña hurdles Tour qualifier

PATTAYA—TONY LASCUÑA PLAYED consistently in the Asian Tour Qualifying School Final Stage Saturday and was rewarded with full playing rights for the 2007 golf season which starts with the Philippine Open set Jan. 11-14 at Wack Wack.

The dusky Lascuña, shooting rounds of 70-72-70-71, finished in an eight-way tie for 17th place with a 283 total at the end of the four-day qualifying topped by Malaysia's Ben Leong at the Pattana Golf and Sports Resort course.

Only the top 44 players from among 103 players who survived the 36-hole

cut booked exemption for next season.

The magic qualifying figure was 286. Four other Filipinos who made it to the last two rounds faded when it counted most and missed the Asian Tour train.

Cookie La'O finished at 288, Gerald Rosales totalled 290, Carito Villaroman scored 296 and Marlon Dizon wound up at 299.

Lascuña becomes the fourth Filipino regular in the coming Asian Tour after Frankie Miñoza, Juvic Pagunsan and Angelo Que.

Leong, fresh from playing in the

Asian Games, carded two birdies against a lone bogey for a 70 and a 12-under-par 273 total.

"This is definitely the highlight of the year for me, I'm so happy," said a jubilant Leong who had the help of his father NC Leong as his caddie.

"I never expected to finish on top but this is mainly thanks to my dad who has been guiding well throughout the four days here."

Swiss talent Martin Rominger and Australian Scott Hend shots 69s and finished tied for second at 276. Asian Tour website.

Team Asia nips Internationals, bags Lexus Cup

By Jong Arcano

SINGAPORE—JENNIFER ROSALES lost her match but the Korean stars took care of things for Team Asia in a close 12 ½ to 11 ½ victory over the International side yesterday in the Lexus Cup 2006 here that underscored the balance of power in ladies golf.

The count was all even through 11 of the 12 singles matches and it all came down to the duel between Korea's Seon Hwa Lee and Paraguayan Julieta Granada, 20-year-olds who earned a lot of money in the LPGA this season.

Unruffled by the sonic boom coming from the jumbo jets flying in and out of the nearby Changi airport, LPGA Rookie of the Year Lee sealed the deal for the Asians with a superb pitch shot on the 16th to set up a three-foot birdie that moved her two up on Granada.

Granada made one last attempt to stay in the fight and almost holed her bunker shot on the 17th.

When Lee tapped in for her par on the 17th, captain Grace Park and the members of the Asian team came rushing down to the green to join Lee in a big celebration of their conquest of Annika Sorenstam and her International wards.

"It was tough out there and it was really very close. It's becoming more and more exciting," said Park of the win that leveled up things for both sides after last year's victory by the Internationals.

The final round was twice delayed by thunderstorms.

The Asians, needing just five and a

half points to win, were up in six matches when play was called off for the second time with the break lasting almost two hours.

Sorenstam disposed of Park quickly (4&3) but Jee Young Lee routed 18-year-old Morgan Pressel (5&4) to preserve the two-point lead before the first suspension of play.

The Internationals came out of the second rain delay spewing fire with Sherri Steinhauer's 4&3 demolition of Rosales pushing them ahead, 9 ½-8 ½, counting the wins of Paula Creamer and the draw forged by Angela Stanford with Meena Lee.

Rosales was consistent with her driving but struggled around the greens. She was just one down after nine holes but lost three of the first five on the back nine.

"I'm happy for the team and for us to be holding the Lexus Cup is all that matters to me. I think I'm getting there, I drove the ball well but I still have some work left with my short game," said Rosales, who got a draw and a win with Candie Kung in the first two days of the Ryder Cup-style competition.

Significantly, it was a short three-day work for J-Ro that gave the two-time LPGA winner her fattest paycheck this season of \$50,000, taxes not included.

Also, it was even bigger than her total winnings of \$48,113 in a forgettable season where she battled injury after injury and lost her confidence due to a complete revamp of her swing.

All members of the winning team also received \$50,000 each while the losers got \$30,000 in this season-ending event of the LPGA Tour.



TEAM skipper Grace Park (left, top photo), holds the Lexus Cup aloft with teammate Meena Lee as members from Team Asia, including Jennifer Rosales (extreme right, second row), pose for a victory photo.

AP

**A GREAT PERFORMANCE IS
BEST ACHIEVED**



PENREX

HERBAL SUPPLEMENT FOR MEN

It really WORKS!

- Works naturally in Response to Sexual Stimulation
- Restores Self-confidence
- Improves vitality level
- No Side effects & No Prescription Needed
- Enhances sexual Performance
- BFAD Approved Code #F-57565

DISTRIBUTED
NATIONWIDE BY



FOR OUTLETS INFO:
Cebu - (032) 2559776
MIA - (02) 8179876, 8134372

FOR PRODUCT INFO:
0917 6239109 / 0921 5551744
TEL/FAX: (032) 3464309

AVAILABLE AT AND OTHER LEADING DRUGSTORES & HEALTH SHOPS NATIONWIDE

AD

RP AMATEURS

Asiad bets hot favorites

THE PHILIPPINE AMATEUR GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP gets under way today with a record field of 124 players vying for top honors in the men's and ladies divisions, including bets from Taiwan, Malaysia and Singapore at The Country Club in Laguna.

Michael Bibat, the bronze medalist in the just-concluded Asian Games in Doha, will be the man to watch along with the other members of the national pool who are expected to use their familiarity with the par 72 layout, where they trained for the last 10 months.

So big is the field that the sponsoring ICTSI and organizing NGAP are using Nos. 1 and 10 as tee-off points for the morning and afternoon flights.

Bibat will have Taiwan's Cho Tsung-lin and Domingo Bacala as flightmates in the featured 8

a.m. group on No. 1, while fellow RP team member Marvin Dumandan has David Northwood and Gerald Katigbak for company in the 10 a.m. flight.

Jay Bayron, another fancied bet here, joins the group of Jonel Ababa and Marbon Gonzales in the 7:40 a.m. flight, while Gene Bondoc has Scott Puzey and Boyet Zaragoza as flightmates in the 7:30 a.m. group on No. 1.

The field will play two rounds of stroke play eliminations with the top 32 players advancing to the match play event starting Wednesday.

The 16 survivors dispute the quarterfinal berths on Dec. 21 with the winners battling it out in the afternoon match for the semis slots.

The semis will be played on Dec. 22 with the finals, a 36-hole affair, slated Dec. 23.

Junior World champions Dottie Ardina and

Cyna Gonzales and fellow Asian Gamer Anya Tanpinco lead the cast in the 28-player women's field.

Ardina is set to tee off on No. 1 at 11:50 a.m. with Carina Ricamonte and Irina Gabasa while Rodriguez will start on No. 10 at 11:50 a.m. along with Tricia Maclang and Hwee Koh Sock of Singapore.

Other foreign players seeing action are Asian Games veteran Edmund Jonathan and Au Tan Min Yean and Anil Johani Abu Bakar of Malaysia while Singapore will be bannery by its Manila SEA Games squad Melissa Lok, Shi Hui and Christable Goh Simin.

Joining Tsung in the Taiwan roster is Hsun Ting Chao.

Also competing are members of the ICTSI golf program.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

SPORTS

MONDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2006

GREAT DEALS OF QUALITY

AUTOWIDE

TRUCKS, PASSENGER VANS & SUVs

BIGGEST PRICE CUT

Dec. 18-20, 2006

Isuzu Tow Dump Truck

Isuzu Van Truck

Isuzu SUV

Lot C, Rizal Highway, Subic Gateway, Subic Bay Freeport Zone Tel no.: (047) 252-1221 Fax no.: (047) 252-1223

GULLWING MOTORS-INTL. CORP. #57 Amang Rodriguez Ave., Santolan, Pasig City

Tel. no.: 646-7739 Fax no.: 668-1378

www.myautowide.com info@myautowide.com

P.5M for Konica Pro-Am champs

NEARLY HALF A MILLION PESOS will go to the winners of the Konica Minolta National Pro-Am Golf Championship set from Jan. 31 to Feb. 3 at The Riviera's Langer in Silang, Cavite.

This was announced yesterday by Edilberto B. Bravo, the U-Bix Corporation founder and Konica Minolta franchisee, who revived the fabled Pro-Am in 2001.

"A tournament rich in tradition is always worth our while," said Bravo. "Staging it has always given us deep pride at U-Bix."

The Pro-Am, then a fixture in Philippine sports, was scrapped when Fort Bonifacio—its old home—was privatized in 1998.

Founded in 1958, the Pro-Am was a much-awaited leg of the Philippine

Golf Circuit then bankrolled by San Miguel Corp.

Bravo, a noted sportsman who also staged one Philippine Open at Southwoods and two foreign-spiced Manila Opens at Manila Golf and Wack Wack back in the 90s, felt sad seeing a revered event go in limbo.

In 2000, he went to the National Golf Association of the Philippines (NGAP) and, with Pro-Am original Taby Tabaniag in tow, explored the possibility of reviving it.

Its revival in 2001 was a smashing success, with Noli Kempis and Erwin Vinluan emerging champions.



BRAVO

The Mifioza brothers, Paul and Raul, won the second edition before Gerard Cantada and JR Tanpinco made history by winning the next three editions.

This year's sixth staging carries a whopping P1.7 million in prize money on top of a Toyota vehicle as a hole-in-one prize.

As usual, there will be the Celebrity Pro-Am preceding the one-ball, twosome event.

For other details, call the NGAP at 525-6987, 524-5160 and 521-158; or The Riviera at 888-9127, (046) 414-2868, (046) 414-2837 and 888-9094.

Valbuena calls new Tatap polls 'a joke'

ANOTHER CONTROVERSY IS SET to explode at the Table Tennis Association of the Philippines (Tatap) following a recent election held by a breakaway faction of the association that hopes to replace Victor Valbuena as president.

In a press release by the group, 13 of 18 supposedly legitimate regional representatives, including three of the five incumbent members of the board of trustees, elected a new board by secret balloting. That board will choose from among themselves the new set of officers.

As expected, Valbuena shrugged off the development, calling it a mere political move.

"The election's a joke," Valbuena told the INQUIRER in Filipino yesterday. "Nobody informed me about it. There was no notice, there was no agenda."

Valbuena said he would file a complaint with the Philippine Olympic Committee's executive board on Wednesday.

The breakaway group has, in the past, accused Valbuena of graft and corruption, including the questionable use of funds from the First Gentleman's Foundation, a cash pool used to sponsor projects by the national sports association in the past.

"Those are old accusations which have no basis at all," Valbuena said. "That's an old issue and they have no proof against me."

Valbuena said the group is merely being used by a sports official to pursue his bid for the Philippine Olympic Committee presidency by installing allies as head of the different national sports associations.

Elected to the board of trustees, according to the press release, were the association's former treasurer Jose Ortalla Jr. and secretary general Dante Boquirin, NCR vice president Floro Tagum, Dr. Louie Metran of Region 11 and Alvin Tai Lian of the PNP Table Tennis Club.

In the press release, the group claimed they were treading on legal ground.

"We expect Mr. Valbuena to question the legality of the election but all documents will substantiate our action and will be included in our report [to the POC]," said Boquirin.

Normally, NSA elections are monitored by a POC representative. Yesterday's elections had athletics chief and special assistant to the POC president Go Teng Kok as witness.

Go, however, was present on his personal capacity and was not assigned to witness the election.

Season's Greetings

HANFORD

DEPARTMENT STORE SUPERMARKET

See more at Men's Dept.-Ground Floor

Hair Transplants

The Best Option to Hair Loss

Hair transplant done by another doctor using the old technique.

Old technique hair transplants RESTORED by Dr. Andrew G. Pineda

Patient 1

Before Hair Transplant at Dr. Andrew G. Pineda's Clinic.

6 months after Hair Transplant done at Dr. Andrew G. Pineda's Clinic.

Patient 2

Everyone will notice the change in you but no one will ever know you had a hair transplant.

- ❖ Dr. Andrew G. Pineda, a Beverly Hills Trained Hair Transplant Specialist who for the past 16 years has perfected the artistic skill and aesthetic technique in hair restoration is here to serve you.
- ❖ Dr. Andrew G. Pineda, now restores even the "Old Doll's Hair Look" from hair transplants done in the past.
- ❖ Dr. Andrew G. Pineda uses the latest technique of follicular unit transplants and the trichophytic closure for scar free results.

Call today for an appointment with the doctor himself at 813 0691

◆ no maintenance ◆ no scars ◆ no plug look ◆ no risk

◆ no bandages ◆ shower the next day ◆ affordable

◆ dense packing up to 3,000 grafts (\$5,000 to 10,000 HAIRS)

A. PINEDA MEDICAL CLINICS

Suite 612 Medical Towers Makati, Rufino Street, Legaspi Village, Makati, Metro Manila

MANILA (02) 813-0691 • DAVAO (82) 221-2682

www.pinedahair.com

hp dx2200 Business Desktop

The proven technology you want. The affordability you need.

Call us now for a special Christmas offer!

INTEGRATED COMPUTER SYSTEMS, INC.
632-727-3801 • 744-3600 • www.icsi.com.ph

BUSINESS

Website: www.inq7money.net

Editor Raul O. Marcelo • Assistant Editor Corrie S. Narisma

Text us your feedback: inquirer biz name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

E-mail: business@inquirer.com.ph

CORONET DIARIES

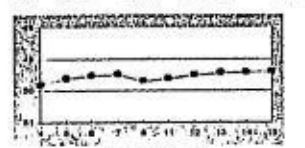
Experience the Difference. Sewn for Permanence. Pagemarkers and Head Bands. Useful Infos and Color Maps. Gold-lipped Pages. Exclusive Vinyl Covers.

FOR INQUIRIES CALL
CORONET Enterprises, Inc.
TEL. 740-1030 • 740-1033 • 740-1034

AVAILABLE AT ALL
National Book Store

First Pac, NTT raising stake in PLDT

INDICATORS



DECEMBER
P 49.365 = \$ 1
As of 5 p.m., Dec. 15, 2006

Offer P25.2B for 6.4% holdings of gov't in telco

By Elizabeth L. Sanchez

HONG KONG-BASED FIRST PACIFIC CO. LTD. AND MOBILE phone giant NTT DoCoMo of Japan announced late Friday a proposal to jointly acquire a 6.4-percent government stake in Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co.

(PLDT) for P25.2 billion.

First Pacific managing director and chief executive Manuel V. Pangilinan said the offer would match the highest bid by a foreign investor for the government's stake in the country's dominant telecommunications firm.

First Pacific said in a statement late Friday that it has reached an agreement in principle with NTT DoCoMo for each of them to acquire 3.2 percent in PLDT. Pangilinan, who also chairs PLDT, said First Pacific and NTT DoCoMo

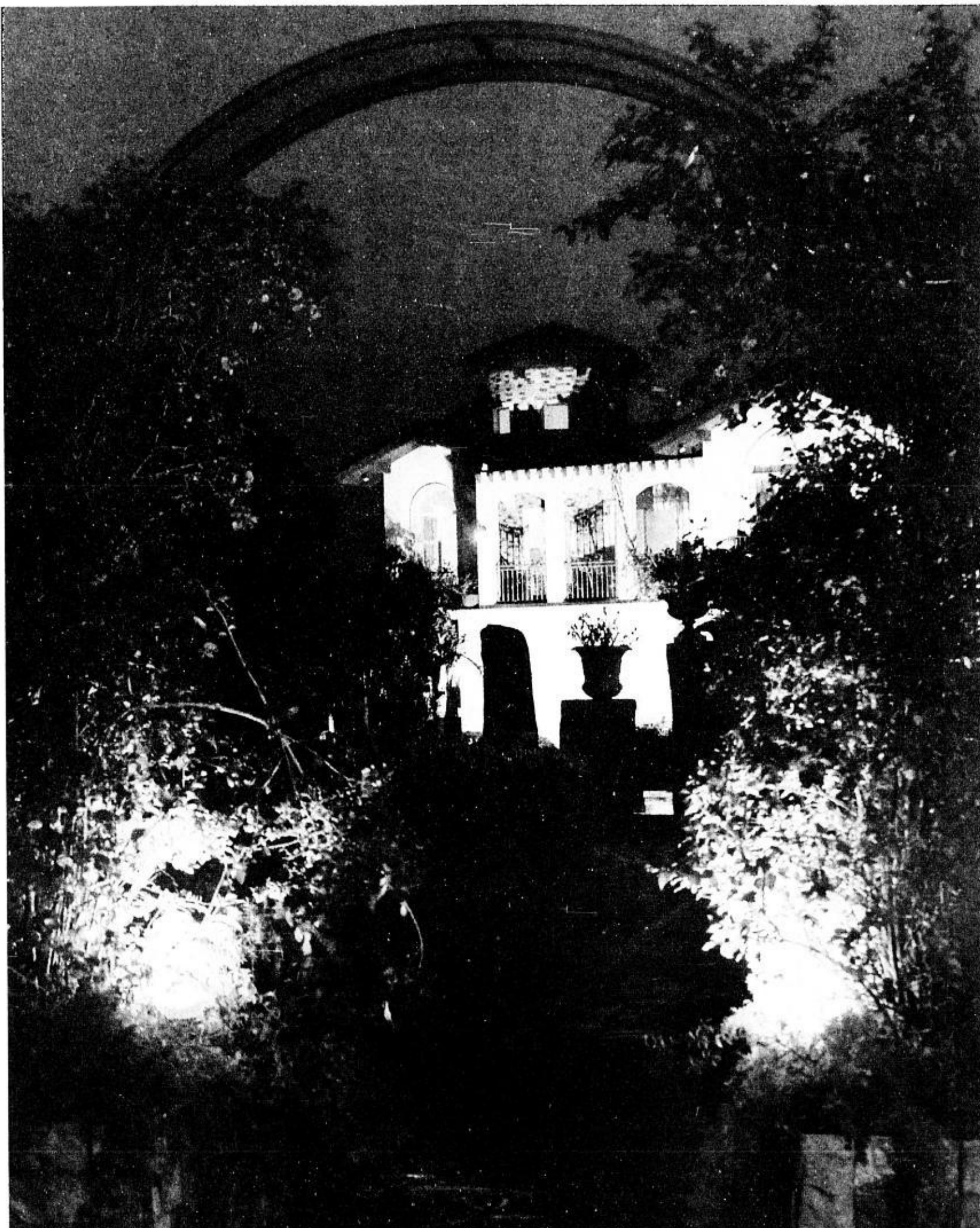
FIRST PAC/B4

Brittany BEAUTIFUL

A MAGNIFICENCE BORN OF THE OLD WORLD...
A ROMANCE WITH COURTYARDS...
GLORIOUS WITH THE RISING AND SETTING SUN...



Photos by Wig Tysmans



This is COURTYARDS OF PORTOFINO. Beautiful.

Courtyard homes...romantic, with open air garden hideaways inside...inspired by Old World Italy...made even more beautiful with the rich light of the sun from dawn to dusk. This is Courtyards II of Portofino, where homes are crafted in the artistic tradition of the European masters. That artistry is expressed in each home, each courtyard, and each garden of Courtyards II of Portofino.

The original Courtyards sold quickly. Courtyards II is going just as fast. This is your chance to live in a courtyard home.

COURTYARDS II
OF
Portofino
ALABANG

Take a Property Preview. Call 850 2868 • 850 6986 Click www.brittany.com.ph

To get to Courtyards II of Portofino, from South Luzon Expressway, take Fillinvest exit then proceed to Commerce Avenue. Turn left at Daang Hari. Portofino is at your right.

BUSINESS

Robust growth seen till 2010

By Doris C. Dumlaog

THE PHILIPPINES, WITH A FRESH RESOLVE to ease huge infrastructure bottlenecks, expects a 5.7-percent growth in gross domestic product this year and sustain a steady economic expansion in the years ahead without "overheating" or stoking inflationary pressures.

Based on the inter-agency Development Budget Coordination Committee's latest assessment, the country could expand faster than the government's baseline assumptions and post a GDP growth of 5.8 percent next year, 5.9 percent in 2008, 6.2 percent in 2009 and 6.3 percent in 2010.

GDP, deemed as the single most important economic indicator, refers to the total amount of goods and services produced by the domestic economy in a given period. It does not include the net factor income from abroad such as the remittances from overseas Filipino workers.

While GDP growth has been projected to rise, the inflation

rate was seen sustaining its decline. From an average of 6.3 percent by year's end, the inflation rate was seen easing to a mid-point of 4.5 percent next year, 4 percent in 2008, 3.5 percent in 2009 and 3 percent in 2010, DBCC documents showed.

"We expect the economic growth performance to continue to improve for the next five years precisely because you have the (government's) fiscal performance improving and this is very important to be able to finance the critical requirements for infrastructure, including power, telecommunications and other public works like roads and bridges and ports—both airports and seaports," BSP Deputy Governor Diwa Guinigundo said on Friday.

"Remember that our potential capacity has been dampened or constrained by lack of infrastructure for the last decades but with the new emphasis on infrastructure then we should see an expanded level of potential output," Guinigundo said.

Last week, the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas announced an inflation target of 4 percent for 2008. Having modified its inflation-targeting system to allow more leeway in evaluating and managing consumer price stability, this mid-point inflation target range implies an allowable range of 3-5 percent.

"Now if potential output is increasing, then from the monetary perspective, you can expect that higher levels of liquidity would be absorbed by the economy and therefore may not necessarily translate into higher inflation," Guinigundo said.

One of the underlying reasons for the lower inflation rate target for 2008, Guinigundo said, would be the diminishing pressures from the increase in the value-added tax rate and the removal of some exemptions.

A Congress to be proud about

THIS IS NOT ABOUT THE Congress that has put the country to shame with its majority members' self-serving machinations masquerading as a patriotic move to save the country from—uh—politicians perennially engaging in self-serving machinations.

This is about a Congress that has gathered for a far worthier cause: the protection of the ocean and coastal areas in our part of the world.

High profile

Over a hundred Filipinos converged in the city of Haikou on China's Hainan Island last week, joining hundreds of other delegates to the East Asian Seas (EAS) Congress 2006. This was the second time this congress was held, the first having transpired in Putrajaya, Malaysia, exactly three years ago. The gathering is convened by the Partnerships for the Environmental Management of the Seas of East Asia (PEMSEA), a UN program hosted by our country in an inconspicuous building within the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) compound in Quezon City.

But inconspicuous this Congress certainly is not. In the first EAS congress in 2003, President Fidel V. Ramos was the high-profile guest and "godfather" of the proceedings—and he had his numerous initiatives in pursuit of Philippine sustainable development during his watch in the 1990s to give credence to this role. In Haikou last week, it was former Thai Prime Minister Chuan Leekpai who played the part, bolstered by the award provided by the congress to the Port of Bangkok in recognition of its port environmental management system. Thailand also boasts a number of PEMSEA model sites for integrated coastal management (ICM).

Filipino pride

This momentous event probably saw little mention in the Philippine news, if at all. Notwithstanding Typhoon Utor (Senyang) that we Filipino delegates appeared to bring with us to Hainan, we and our country as a whole had much to be proud about, right from the opening ceremonies down through the various workshops, awards and exhibits that marked the 4-day Congress. Easily stealing the show in the opening program were the speeches of two young children, one of them 9-year-old Jenio Mikael Atrigenio, a third-grader at the Ateneo de Manila Grade School. He flawlessly delivered a stirring and well-applauded message that not a few admitted to have brought a tear or two to their eyes, with his challenge to the "cool" grown-ups in the audience to save the seas for his generation's sake. The impact he made on his international audience was worth far more than the classes and exams he reportedly had to miss at Ateneo to address the congress.

Model LGUs

Filipino delegates likewise proved to be dominant "stars" of the congress. Mayors of some of our coastal municipalities practicing ICM—including Mary Jane Ortega of San Fernando in La Union; Rowell Sandoval of Mabini and Antonio Atienza of Tingloy in Batangas; Aristeo Atienza of Puer-

No Free Lunch

Cielito F. Habito



to Galera in Mindoro; Gabriel Navarro of Bani, Alfonso Celeste of Bolinao, Nestor Pulido of Anda, and Hernani Braganza of Alaminos City in Pangasinan—were there to share their stories with admiring workshop audiences.

The PEMSEA Recognition Award for his province's model ICM program was accepted by Batangas Gov. Armando Sanchez. The Bataan Coastal Care Foundation received similar recognition, for showing how various sectors can work in active partnership to protect the coasts and seas off Bataan province. Members of the inter-agency Manila Bay Environmental Management Project were also there to showcase the multisectoral efforts to protect this important water body, on which an estimated half of our GDP depends. Valiant environmental lawyer Tony Oposa inspired his audiences with stories of determined enforcement of environmental laws in the Visayan Seas. And Environment Secretary Angelo Reyes representing us in the subsequent Ministerial Forum, accepted the congress flag to signify our country's hosting of the next EAS congress in 2009.

Partnerships

PEMSEA is the only international grouping of its kind that has managed to cross political lines to include both Koreas in its fold, and give concrete meaning to its first name, partnerships. Out of its small corner in the DENR compound, its staff led by Malaysian Dr. Chua Thia-Eng has managed to move 14 countries sharing the East Asian Seas to undertake tangible efforts to reverse the alarming deterioration of the coastal and marine resources in the region. The economic implications of this decline in the quality of our seas and coasts may not be readily apparent, but they are staggering. PEMSEA has undertaken numerous studies to assess the value of these actual and potential losses. But more importantly, PEMSEA has kindled numerous fires in the hearts of large numbers of East Asians, in central and local governments, in big and small businesses, and in various NGOs and communities. In so doing, it has brokered working partnerships that have permitted complementation and synergy among the resources and efforts of these various groups in service of our seas.

Last week's East Asian Seas Congress was an occasion to showcase achievements, take stock of new knowledge, push forward with ongoing initiatives, rekindle the fires in familiar hearts, and start new ones in even more hearts, especially among young people who were made a regular part of the congress for the first time. Those of us Filipinos who were there came out of it feeling proud of our modest successes, but also challenged at the enormity of the task that remains to be done.

Details on the EAS Congress are at www.pemsea.org/eascongress. Your usual comments are welcome at chabito@ateneo.edu

Private firm bearish on RP economy

By Michelle V. Remo

PHILIPPINE ECONOMIC GROWTH is seen to slow down to as low as 3.1 percent next year due to an expected downturn in the United States, a major export market and source of remittances from overseas Filipino workers.

This was the forecast made by consultancy firm CLSA, which said the high dependence of exports on electronics makes the Philippines vulnerable to volatile cycle of global demand for electronics.

The 3.1-percent gross domestic product (GDP) growth projection by CLSA is much lower than the government's target of at least 5.7 percent. It also indicates a significant deceleration from the expected growth for 2006.

For this year, the government expects GDP growth to hit anywhere between 5.5 and 6.1 percent. CLSA is actually more bullish than the government for 2006, having predicted a GDP growth of 5.7 percent.

The 2006 growth projection by

CLSA is anchored on the robust exports growth so far seen this year. Merchandise exports reached \$4.2 billion, growing by 15.5 percent in October from a year ago.

The January to October export performance likewise posted a double-digit growth, hitting \$39.32 billion, up 16.4-percent year-on-year.

The growth of the exports sector this year is credited to the increase in demand for consumer electronics such as laptop computers, iPods, and MP3 players. Electronics comprise 60 to 70 percent of the Philippines' total export earnings, and the United States is the Philippines' biggest export market.

In October, the United States accounted for about 19 percent of Philippine export earnings.

"The economy will be vulnerable to a downturn in the US. The poorly diversified export base leaves the economy exposed to falling global electronics demand," CLSA said in a paper on its forecast for Asian economies.

CALL CENTER TRAINING (INCLUDES CALL SIMULATION) CONVERSATIONAL ENGLISH CONVERSATIONAL MANDARIN GUARANTEED 100% JOB SUPPORT

CCI Learning Institute

Pearl of the Orient Tower (across US Embassy)
Suite 804, 8th Flr, 1240 Roxas Blvd, Ermita, Manila
523-0708 / 484-2511

NOW OPEN FOR FRANCHISE

SHOW THIS AD TO GET 5% OFF ANY OF OUR PROGRAMS

WE'LL FIX IT FAST!

Authorized wholesaler of Hewlett Packard peripheral products

CITIWORLD **GUARANTEED 30 MINUTE SERVICE RESPONSE**

Main Office: Lower Ground, David 1 Building, 547 Shaw Blvd., Mandaluyong City
Tel. Nos.: 725-7031 / 724-5823 / 723-4884
Makati Office: LG UNIT 10, STAR CENTRUM BLDG., SEN. G. PUAYAT AVE., COR. MALUGAY ST., MAKATI CITY
Tel. Nos.: 892-0718 / 892-7555

Philam Equitable Life Assurance Company

Maximize Your Dollar and Peso Growth Potential

Investment Funds of Variable Life Insurance Contracts	Valuation Date 12/14/06	Valuation Date 12/07/06
PELAC Dollar Bond Fund	1.2504	1.2512
PELAC Global Bond Fund	1.1717	1.1725
PELAC Peso Fixed Income Fund	1.0411	1.0322
PELAC Peso Equity Fund	1.0740	1.0588

These investment funds are specific to variable life insurance contracts and are not considered mutual funds. Life insurance products are regulated by the Insurance Commission.

*Fund prices are net of transaction costs

PRINT FOR PROFIT

PRINT HIGH RESOLUTION BANNERS, STREAMERS AND BILLBOARDS AT LOW PRODUCTION COST!

Gämutek
HI-SPEED
LARGE FORMAT PRINTER

10.5 ft. width
720 dpi / 4 color

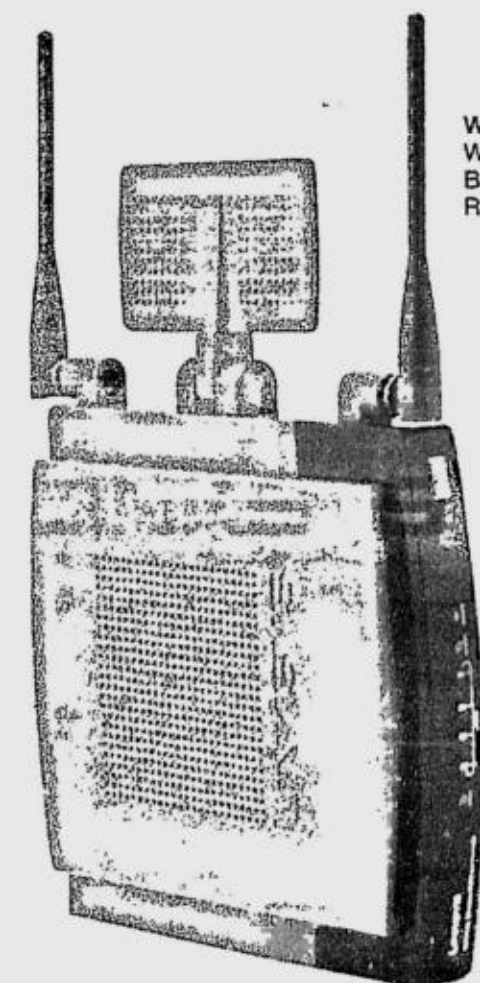
Telephone Nos.: 934-7975 • 934-0380
941-0716 • 490-7080
email: tarpo.sales@gmail.com
Look for Nante/Julius

LINKSYS®

A Division of Cisco Systems, Inc.

Wireless-N

The Freedom to Do It All!
Internet. Voice. Entertainment -
All at Once. Anywhere.

WRT300N
Wireless-N
Broadband
Router

Surf the web, enjoy high definition video, listen to your digital music collection, and make Internet phone calls - all at the same time. With whole-home coverage that virtually eliminates dead spots, Wireless-N (draft 802.11n) delivers the freedom to work and play everywhere, without the hassle of running new wires.

- Up to 4X the range for whole-home coverage that virtually eliminates dead spots.
- Up to 12X the speed of the older Wireless-G standard.
- Compatible with existing Wireless-G and -B products.
- Easy to install and easy to use. Set it and forget it.



Philippines Technical Toll Free (Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm):
1-800 1-114-1695

Linksys. Nobody makes networking easier!

Visit www.linksys.com today for product details.Cisco Systems - Email: asiasupport@linksys.com

Authorized Distributors: Ingram Micro +632.633.8902

Microwarehouse +632.637.0474 (Manila) +63.32.253.1026 (Cebu) +63.82.222.2192 (Davao)

Specifications are subject to change without notice. Linksys is a registered trademark or trademark of Cisco Systems, Inc. and/or its affiliates in the U.S. and certain other countries. Copyright © 2006 Cisco Systems, Inc. All rights reserved.

CISCO SYSTEMS

State-owned PNOC eyes own initial public offering

By Abigail L. Ho

FOLLOWING THE SUCCESSFUL listing of PNOC Energy Development Corp. (PNOC-EDC), parent firm Philippine National Oil Co. is mulling over its own initial public offering.

In an interview with reporters, PNOC officer in charge Pedro Aquino Jr. said this should take place once all of PNOC's subsidiaries had been privatized.

"The idea is to make PNOC, the holding company, public. We're building the necessary infrastructure to allow us to get to that point," he said. "What we want is to be less dependent or no longer dependent on sovereign guarantees."

He said that in preparation for its eventual listing, PNOC was strengthening its ties with all its subsidiaries, making sure that it was privy to whatever was taking place in each of the individual companies.

"We'll have representatives on the boards (of the subsidiaries) so we can monitor them closely. As with any book-building process, we want to build a success story," he said.

Some of PNOC's subsidiaries were already in the process of being privatized, he said.

PNOC Development and Management Corp., for instance, is currently disposing its real estate assets. PNOC Shipping and Transport Corp., on the other hand, is also in the process of being privatized.

PNOC-EDC will also be undergoing privatization, on top of the listing of almost 40 percent of its shares on the local

Encouraged by success of subsidiary's IPO

bourse, which raised around P16.7 billion.

In a separate briefing, Energy Secretary Raphael Lotilla said the listing "bodes well for the government as it indicates continued in-

terest of investors" in the Philippines.

"With the listing, PNOC-EDC can better pursue expansion projects. But this IPO is still on top of the (Electric Power Industry Re-

form Act of 2001)-mandated privatization of (National Power Corp.) plants with steam sales contracts with PNOC-EDC," he said.

"We will continue to look for expansion opportunities in the

domestic market for EDC. But more than that, more opportunities are waiting overseas," he added.

Aquino said PNOC was expecting very good returns on its investments in PNOC-EDC and also in Petron Corp.

These, he said, should also contribute to boosting the value of the holding firm as it prepares for listing.

AS LOW AS P250

OFFICE EQUIPMENTS REPAIR Present this coupon and avail of a **15% DISCOUNT**

ALL BRANDS, ALL MODELS

FAX MACHINES, PRINTERS, MONITORS, CALCULATORS, TYPEWRITERS & OTHER ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENTS

KC KINGS COYER SHOPPING

854-2300 (Cebu City) 854-2301 (Makati City) 854-2302 (Quezon City) 854-2303 (Alabang)

FAX REPAIR

854-2300 (Cebu City) 854-2301 (Makati City) 854-2302 (Quezon City) 854-2303 (Alabang)

start your own business today!
everything you need is here.

IR1210 / IR1510
Digital copier and Printer in one

- Laser Quality
- Fast and Efficient
- Easy to Use

IR1210 P39,950.00
IR1510 P47,500.00

ELITE CALL 722-8888
MACHINES, INC. OR TEXT (0927) 250-1581
FOR SALES AND SERVICE

Canon
Delighting You Always

1465 Golden Bldg., E. Rodriguez Sr. Ave., Quezon City 22 Sen. Gil Puyat Ave., Makati 301 Pacific Land Bldg., 460 Quinlan Paredes cor. S. Padilla Sts., Binondo, Manila 33 Gen. Maxilom Ave., Cebu City

Tel. no. 410-8609 887-7238 • 887-7256 • 887-7268 247-6012 • 247-4030 to 33 Tel. (0352) 233-6711 to 16 Fax (0352) 233-6718 or 25

TRAVEL WHEELCHAIR

MINI-BOB TRAVEL WHEELCHAIR

- So small it could fit in a bag
- So light it can be brought anywhere
- Will fit in the aisle of the airplane
- Ideal for travel anywhere around the world

FAR EAST MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

SM MALL OF ASIA Unit 112, 2/F, 11th Floor, 256 0207	SM MEGAMALL 5th Flr., Bldg. A, 635-0436	SM NORTH EDSA Car Park Plaza, 453-3326
V MALL 2nd Flr., 2nd Bldg., 727-4921	SM FAIRVIEW 4th Flr., 418-7540	CEBU 417-8286

Wanna Get Pregnant?

OVUPLUS
Ovulation Predictor

Improve your chances of conception

BFAD Approved

OVUPLUS is available in selected Metro Manila Mercury Drug stores or delivered nationwide by calling Med Express at (02)634-3333

In Davao, call Mancel Beng Hui (082)227-0200

Distributed by MOLLEX Corp. <http://www.ovuplus.com> Call (02)687-0471 for inquiries

NEGOSYONG FOODCART
BUY ONE, TAKE ONE
10th Yr. ANNIVERSARY OFFER!
(LIMITED TIME ONLY)

Business Package for 2, for you at sa pamilya mo!

BARYABALLS STATION
BUY 1, TAKE 1
SAVE 65,000

STAINLESS STEEL CART, 6 MONTHS WARRANTY, PANAFLEX SIGNAGE, FREE INITIAL STOCKS WORTH P2TH (FREE DELIVERY WITHIN METRO ILA)

Fish Balls, Squid Balls, Shrimp Balls, Chicken Balls, Origan Balls, Crab Nuggets, Tokneneng, Kikiam, Hotdog, Hamburger, Cheeseburger, Ham Sandwich, Slopao, Siomai, Empanada, Ensaymada, Gulaman, Pineapple Juice, Bottled Water, E-LOAD

MINUTE WAFFLE
BUY 1, TAKE 1
P98,000 ONLY

UHLENHOPF'S ICE CREAM
(3 NOZZLES)
BUY 1, TAKE 1
P190,000 ONLY

NEW FOODCART CONCEPT
MUMTAZ SHAWARMA STATION

We provide the ft. services! (For FREE!!!)

- Initial Stocks
- Site Assistance
- Delivery of Cart
- Business
- Training (w/ Financial Matrix)
- Marketing Support
- Consultation w/ former McDonalds Managers
- Manpower
- Store Opening
- Audit Assistance

PLUS SEMINAR ON HOW TO START YOUR OWN BUSINESS EVERY SATURDAY over 300 Food Carts sold.

P90,000 Only

PEOPLE'S FRANCHISE & BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT INC. (PFBDI)
Rms. 203, 206, 207, 212 & 214 St Anthony Bldg., Cambridge St. Aurora Blvd., Cubao, Q.C. (near Mla, Bulletin & BPI)
Tel. no. 995-7099 / 995-7103 / 437-3341 / 439-8235 / 437-4001 / 439-7550

Catch the joys of the season with

BRIDGESTONE

Holiday Giveaways!

This Christmas, Bridgestone has you covered not only with superior tires designed for safety but also with freebies you can use all-year-round. So rush to your nearest Bridgestone dealer and get an exclusive Bridgestone umbrella or T-shirt FREE with every purchase of 2 Bridgestone passenger car tires!

Season's greetings from Bridgestone!

Promo run from December 1 to 4, 2006

Promo available at:

BRIDGESTONE TIRE CENTER (Global City)
32nd st. cor. 4th Avenue, E. Square IT Park, Bonifacio Global City Taguig Tel # 815-8888

BRIDGESTONE TIRE CENTER (Sta. Rosa)
LPHI Sta. Rosa Tagaytay Road Bgy. Don Jose, Sta. Rosa City, Laguna Tel # (049) 541-0000

And in your favorite tire shops in metro manila

Exclusively distributed by:
Philippine Allied Enterprises Corporation
2260 Pasong Tamo Extension, Makati City
Tel. Nos. 812-2540 to 47 • Fax No: 816-7045

Concept Specialist Inc.
Your Partner in Coffee Perfection

MAGNIFICA
A COMPLETE AND INNOVATIVE RANGE OF SUPER AUTOMATIC ESPRESSO MACHINES

By **De'Longhi** Italy

CHICCO DORO

The exceptional coffee from Switzerland

Automatic Cappuccino & Latte

Automatic Cafe Latte, Latte Macchiato, Cappuccino

For product demo, please visit or contact us:
Unit 109-A Criselda Bldg., Sct. De Guia St., Quezon City / Tel Nos. 925-6070, 925-5643, 920-5763
Mobile Number: 0920-9065751

SERVICE ALERT SYSTEM
The Multipurpose Cordless Calling System

When in the cockpit, please keep an eye on the other instruments, too.



Mechanical chronograph movement | Self-winding | Soft-iron inner case for protection against magnetic fields | Antireflective sapphire glass, secured in case of sudden drops in pressure | Water-resistant to 60 m | Stainless steel

IWC Schaffhausen, Switzerland. www.iwc.com

Exclusively available at: LUCERNE: Gionetta 4, Ayala Center • Shangri-La Plaza Mall • Ayala Center, Cebu City CHRONOS: Powerplant Mall • SM Megamall

To receive your complimentary copy of the IWC catalogue, or for further information about any of our models, please contact us at +41 52 532 7693.

IWC
SCHAFFHAUSEN
SINCE 1868



Metro Pacific unit considers P500-M investment in MMC

Upbeat market seen

MARKET SENTIMENT IS EXPECTED to remain upbeat this week as investors bask in the afterglow of the successful listing of PNOG Energy Development Corp.

Paul Joseph Garcia, chief investment officer of ING Philippines, said the successful IPO of PNOG-EDC should spark interest in other energy-related issues. AB Capital Securities said in its weekly note that PNOG-EDC performed above expectations as it managed to open at P4.50 on its first day of listing, a 41 percent gain from its offer price of P3.20 a share.

News that International Fi-

nance Corp. (IFC) picked up a 5-percent minority stake in the company valued at \$50 million also boosted sentiment for the state-run energy firm.

Garcia also said Metro Pacific Investments Corp. should generate interest after its partnership with construction firm DMCI Holdings won the auction for 84 percent of Maynilad Water Services Inc.

Other factors seen influencing market behavior this week are oil prices, which crept up to \$62 a barrel last week, implications of growth in remittances and anti charter change rallies.

Elizabeth L. Sanchez

Hospital on way to P160-M income on back of lower costs

By Elizabeth L. Sanchez

METRO PACIFIC INVESTMENTS Corp., a unit of the First Pacific Group of Hong Kong, is looking at investing P500 million in the Makati Medical Center by the first quarter of next year to spur much-needed facility improvements, MPIC officials said over the weekend.

"Part of the problem (before) was that there were no significant capex (capital expenditure) for the facilities, so that's a significant budget," MMC chair Manuel Pangilinan said.

Pangilinan said Makati Med was likely to post a sharp growth in net income this year to P160

million, from P26 million in 2005 after the hospital successfully reined in costs.

Industry sources also said hospital room occupancy had risen to 75 percent from 60 percent last year.

To further boost revenues, MMC plans to expand its facilities and put up a building adjacent to the main building in Makati.

MMC expects to spend about P1 billion to put up the new building and refurbish the existing hospital.

To partly fund this expansion, MMC plans to raise fresh capital by issuing P500 million in convertible notes to shareholders and interested investors.

First Pac, NTT raising stake in PLDT

From page B1

would each provide about P12.6 billion for the joint acquisition.

If expenses such as legal fees and documentary stamp taxes were included, the investment by both parties would amount to roughly P26 billion, Pangilinan said.

The proposed acquisition will increase First Pacific's "economic interest" in PLDT to 27.5 percent from 24.3 percent.

It will also push up NTT DoCoMo's stake in PLDT to 10 percent, and the NTT Group's holdings—consisting of shares held by NTT

DoCoMo and NTT Communications Corp.—to 17 percent from 13 percent.

First Pacific said in a statement that the additional investment would be made in line with the government's auction of its 6.4-percent interest in PLDT. This stake is derived from the government's 46-percent stake in Philippine Telecommunications Investment Corp., which in turn owns 13.8 percent of PLDT.

The remaining 54 percent in PTIC not owned by the government is held by two subsidiaries of First Pacific which have the right to match the highest bid received in the auction by virtue of PTIC's articles of incorporation.

The national government received two bids

during the auction, the highest of which was equivalent to approximately P2,100 a share. PLDT closed at P2,440 last Friday.

First Pacific added that the proposed acquisition could only proceed following the issuance by the national government of its formal notice under the "right to match."

First Pacific said it expected that the government's formal notice under the "right to match" would be issued shortly and that the proposed acquisition would be completed after 30 days.

The government recently received an offer from Parallax Venture Fund XXVII, owned by Singapore-based Parallax Capital Management, to buy the government's stake in PLDT for P25.2 billion.

Last November, the government auctioned its stake in PLDT after reclaiming it as part of a long, drawn-out legal battle to recover wealth illegally amassed by the late dictator Ferdinand Marcos.

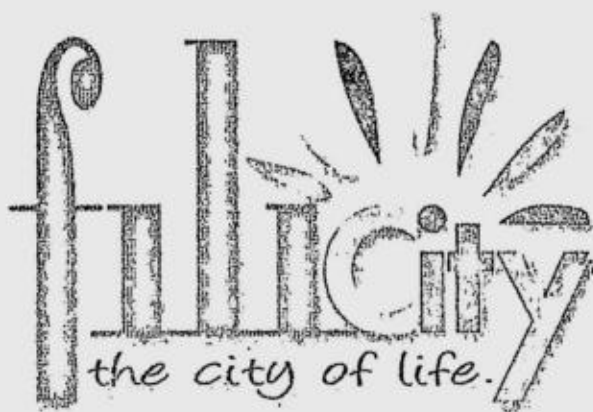
GGC Club Shares			
SEC License Broker # 00131 • As of December 18, 2006			
CLUB	SELLER	BUYER	
Alabang Country Club "A" (Filipino)	1,100,000	1,000,000	
Alabang Country Club "B" (Foreigner)	1,050,000	1,050,000	
Alabang Country Club "C" (Foreigner)	550,000	500,000	
Alabang Country Club "D" (Foreigner)	40,000	40,000	
Alabang Country Club "E" (Foreigner)	60,000	60,000	
Alabang Country Club "F" (Foreigner)	300,000	300,000	
Alabang Country Club "G" (Foreigner)	425,000	425,000	
Alabang Country Club "H" (Foreigner)	1,400,000	1,400,000	
Alabang Country Club "I" (Foreigner)	100,000	100,000	
Alabang Country Club "J" (Foreigner)	100,000	100,000	
Alabang Country Club "K" (Foreigner)	150,000	150,000	
Alabang Country Club "L" (Foreigner)	150,000	150,000	
Alabang Country Club "M" (Foreigner)	150,000	150,000	
Alabang Country Club "N" (Foreigner)	150,000	150,000	
Alabang Country Club "O" (Foreigner)	150,000	150,000	
Alabang Country Club "P" (Foreigner)	150,000	150,000	
Alabang Country Club "Q" (Foreigner)	150,000	150,000	
Alabang Country Club "R" (Foreigner)	150,000	150,000	
Alabang Country Club "S" (Foreigner)	150,000	150,000	
Alabang Country Club "T" (Foreigner)	150,000	150,000	
Alabang Country Club "U" (Foreigner)	150,000	150,000	
Alabang Country Club "V" (Foreigner)	150,000	150,000	
Alabang Country Club "W" (Foreigner)	150,000	150,000	
Alabang Country Club "X" (Foreigner)	150,000	150,000	
Alabang Country Club "Y" (Foreigner)	150,000	150,000	
Alabang Country Club "Z" (Foreigner)	150,000	150,000	

GROW Money Tree			
Grow your money with GROW Money Tree and reap the full potential rewards of your investment!			
Global investing within your reach.			
Investment Funds	Net Asset Value Per Unit (NAVPU)		
	as of 12/7/2006	as of 12/14/2006	
Philamlife Dollar Bond Fund	1.3259	1.3249	
Philamlife Global Bond Fund	1.1781	1.1775	
Life protection and wealth accumulation. We deliver both.			
Investment Funds	Net Asset Value Per Unit (NAVPU)		
	as of 12/7/2006	as of 12/14/2006	
Philamlife Fixed Income Fund	1.3542	1.3578	
Philamlife Equity Fund	1.5243	1.5431	

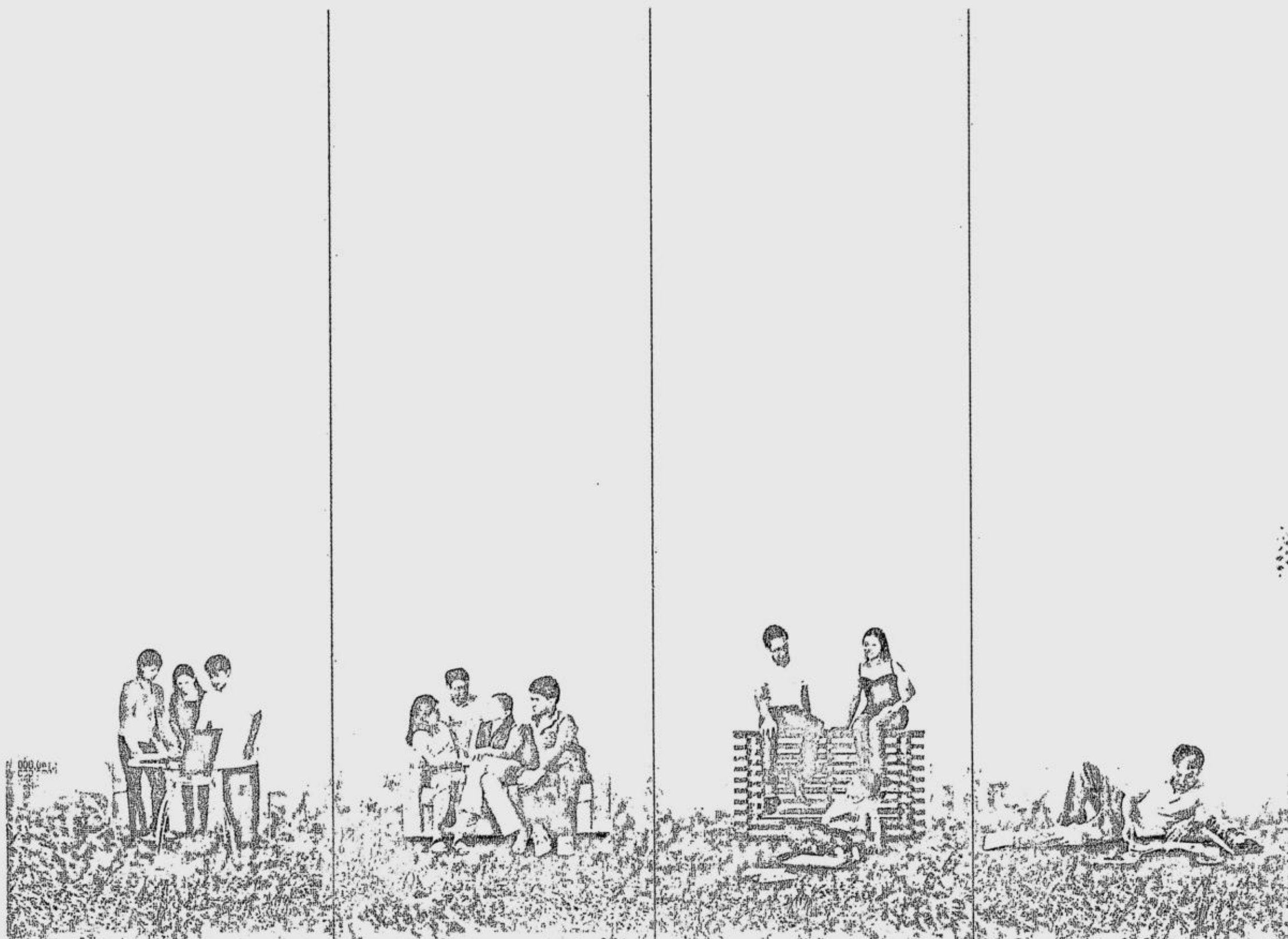
GROW Money Tree			
Grow your money with GROW Money Tree and reap the full potential rewards of your investment!			
Global investing within your reach.			
Investment Funds	Net Asset Value Per Unit (NAVPU)		
	as of 12/7/2006	as of 12/14/2006	
Philamlife Dollar Bond Fund	1.3259	1.3249	
Philamlife Global Bond Fund	1.1781	1.1775	
Life protection and wealth accumulation. We deliver both.			
Investment Funds	Net Asset Value Per Unit (NAVPU)		
	as of 12/7/2006	as of 12/14/2006	
Philamlife Fixed Income Fund	1.3542	1.3578	
Philamlife Equity Fund	1.5243	1.5431	

PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE

STOCKS	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
Asiatrust Dev. Bank Inc.	7.5	7.6	7.5	7.5	80,000
Banco de Oro Univ. Bank	44	44	43.5	44	1,046,000
Bank of the Phil. Islands	63.5	64.5	63.5	64	6,183,000
China Banking Corp.	700	700	700	700	1,820
Citystate Savings Bank	19	19	19	19	19
Export and Ind. Bank A	0.48	0.48	0.47	0.48	3,030,000
Equitable Pci Bank Inc.	79	79	78.5	79	11,300
Metropolitan Bank & Trust	51	51	50.5	51	1,263,700
Phil. Bank of Comm. A	69	69	69	69	200
Phil. Savings Bank	48	48	47	48	15,200
Rural Comm. Banking Corp.	25	25	23.5	24	494,300
Security Bank Corp.	63.5	66	63.5	66	28,800
Union Bank of the Phil.	49.5	49.5	49.5	49.5	2,000
OTHER FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS					
Bankard Inc.	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	250,000
Citiseonline Com Inc.	5	5.3	5	5.3	638,000
First Abacus Financial	0.64	0.64	0.64	0.64	350,000
Filinvest Fund Inc.	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.9	2,000
First Metro Invest. Corp.	30.5	30.5	30.5	30.5	1,800
Manulife Financial Corp.	1640	1640	1640	1640	1,200
Pci Leasing & Fin. Inc.	1.36	1.36	1.36	1.36	174,000
Phil. Stock Exchange Inc.	270	270	270	270	7,000
Sun Life Financial Inc.	2100	2100	2100	2100	6,300
Investment Corp.	1.52	1.52	1.52	1.52	379,000
ELECTRICITY, ENERGY, POWER & WATER					
Pnoc Energy Dev. Corp.	4.2	4.35	4.15	4.3	223,310,000
First Phil Holdings Corp.	54.5	54.5	52.5	52.5	1,910,000
Swift Food Inc.	60	60	59.5	60	749,800
Manila Electric Co. A	54	54	52.5	53	350,400
Manila Electric Co. B	55	55	53	53	1,405,500
Manila Water Co. Inc.	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.9	1,211,000
Petroleum Corp.	4.05	4.1	4.05	4.1	4,620,000
East Asia Power Res. Corp.	0.28	0.32	0.28	0.3	2,360,000
Trans-Asia Oil and Energy	1.08	1.2	1.08	1.14	4,517,000
FOOD, BEVERAGE & TOBACCO					
Alaska Milk Corp.	3	3.7	3	3.7	6,000
Ginebra San Miguel Inc.	20.75	21.25	20.75	21.25	65,000
Jollibee Foods Corp.	41	41	40.5	41	697,500
Pancake House Inc.	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.7	50,000
Panorama Holdings Inc.	2.6	2.65	2.6	2.6	218,000
Swift Food Inc.	0.36	0.37	0.36	0.37	120,000
San Miguel Corp. A	65.5	66	65.5	66	69,000
San Miguel Corp. B	71	71	70.5	71	172,800
Alliance Tuna Int'l Inc.	2.16	2.3	2.14	2.22	4,171,000
Universal Robina Corp.	19.5	19.5	19.25	19.5	222,500
CONSTRUCTION, INFRASTRUCTURE & ALLIED SERVICES					
Southeast Asian Cement	1.12	1.14	1.1	1.14	8,643,000
Engineering Equip. Inc.	3.25	3.25	3.2	3.2	251,000
Fortune Cement Corp.	2.7	2.7	2.5	2.5	1,281,000
Holcim Philippines Inc.	7.6	8.1	7.6	8	5,092,000
Phil Nat'l Const. Corp.	6.4	6.4	6.4	6.4	2,000
Republic Cement Corp.	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	261,000
CHEMICALS					
Chemrez Technologies Inc.	5.1	5.2	5	5.2	3,618,000
Manubay Vinyl Corp.	0.52	0.62	0.52	0.62	180,000
DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS					
Geograce Res. Phil. Inc.	0.7	0.74	0.71	0.74	34,490,000
Picop Resources Inc.	0.195	0.205	0.195	0.195	17,220,000
HOLDING FIRMS					
Asia Amalgamated Holdings	0.42	0.42	0.4	0.4	150,000
Abacus Con Res & Hdg A	0.008	0.008	0.008	0.008	83,000,000
Abacus Con Res & Hdg B	487.5	487.5	487.5	487.5	1,281,000
Alsons Cons. Res. Inc.	0.72	0.72	0.67	0.68	3,210,000
Abotiz Equity Ventures	6.9	6.9	6.6	6.8	9,212,000
Alliance Global Group Inc.	7.4	7.4	7.3	7.3	32,000
Aio Net Holdings Inc.	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.06	25,200,000
S. Soriano Corp.	2.8	2.85	2.8	2.85	1,106,000
Apac Group Inc.	0.38	0.41	0.38	0.39	66,340,000
Alcorn Gold Res. Corp.	0.0095	0.011	0.0095	0.011	519,000,000
Anglo Phil Holdings Corp.	0.58	1.06	0.58	1.04	11,400,000
Ant Holdings Inc.	1.38	1.38	1.32	1.32	51,000
Atn Holdings Inc. B	2	2	2	2	3,000
Balabac Resources & Hldgs	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	10,000
Bacolon Cons Indus Inc.	9	9.5	9	9.5	35,000
Bengros Holdings Corp.	2.24	2.26	2.2	2.2	4,550,000
Bengros Holdings Corp.	6.2	6.3	6.2	6.3	2,077,000
Binvest Dev. Corp.	3.55	3.55	3.55	3.55	1,290,000
House of Investments Inc.	1.9	1.92	1.88	1.88	2,375,000
J.G. Summit Holdings Inc.	9	9.6	9	9.5	95,000
Keppel Holdings Inc.	1.32	1.32	1.3	1.3	38,000
Medco Holdings Inc.	0.26	0.26	0.26	0.26	40,000
Manubay Holdings Corp.	0.34	0.34	0.34	0.34	300,000
Magnum Holdings Inc.	4.3	4.3	4.1	4.1	240,000
Manitex Inv. Corp.	1.84	1.84	1.56	1.56	1,417,500
Pacific	0.019	0.02	0.019	0.02	15,400,000
Prime Orion Phils. Inc.	0.2	0.205	0.2	0.205	1,700,000
Solid Group Inc.	0.65	0.67	0.65	0.67	1,460,000
Sinophill Corp.	0.16	0.165	0.16	0.16	22,750,000
South China Resources Inc.	300	300	295	300	617,950
Summit Resources Corp.	0.94	1	0.94	1	200,000
Unifirst Res. & Holdings Co.	1.54	1.54	1.54	1.54	30,000
Wellx Industries Inc.	0.22	0.24	0.22	0.23	55,110,000
Wellx Industries Inc.	0.12	0.13	0.12	0.13	3,120,000
PROPERTY					
Ayala Land Inc.	14.75	15	14.5	15	11,740,800
Araneta Properties Inc.	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	40,000
Belle Corp.	1.16	1.16	1.14	1.14	8,252,000
A Brown Company Inc.	1.7	1.78	1.68	1.68	251,000
Cityland Development Corp.	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	200,000
Crown Equities Inc.	0.41	0.42	0.41	0.42	3,400,000
Cebu Holdings Inc.	3.2	3.3	3.15	3.3	4,485,000
Cyber Bay Corp.	0.31	0.33	0.3	0.33	2,140,000
Ever-East Land Inc.	0.55	0.55	0.54	0.55	14,990,000
Ever-Goteco Resources	0.0625	0.0625	0.0625	0.0625	2,400,000
Filinvest Land Inc.	1.84	1.86	1.82	1.84	8,620,000
Highlands Prime Inc.	2.42	2.44	2.4	2.44	60,000
Interport Res. B	0.0085	0.009	0.0085	0.0085	327,000,000
Interport Res. B	0.0085	0.009	0.0085	0.0085	97,000,000
Keppel Phils. Prop. Inc.	1.32	1.32	1.3	1.3	455,000
Kuok Phil. Properties	0.5	0.51	0.5	0.5	5,710,000
Landmark Land Corp.	0.68	0.68	0.68	0.68	60,000
Megaworld Corp.	2.24	2.26	2.22	2.26	21,983,000
Mic Allied Ind. Inc.	0.38	0.38	0.37	0.37	2,290,000
Polar Property Holdings	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	4,064,000
Robinsons Land Inc.	15.35	15.35	15.3	15.3	4,064,000
Phil Realty and Holdings	0.71	0.72	0.7	0.7	27,390,000
Sm Development Corp.	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6	1,139,000
Sm Prime Holdings Inc.	9.9	9.9	9.8	9.8	7,467,000
Unwired Holdings Inc.	0.11	0.115	0.11	0.11	1,620,000
MEDIA					
ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp.	21	21	21	21	52,800
Manila Bulletin Pub. Corp.	1.02	1.02	1.02	1.02	20,000
TELECOMMUNICATIONS					
Digital Telecom Phils Inc	182	184	182	184	25,014,000
Globe Telecom Inc.	1250	1250	1240	1245	10,810
Pilipino Tel. Corp.	6.1	6.2	6.1	6.2	7,087,000
Phil. Long Dis Tel Co.	2420	2465	2420	2440	234,150
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY					
Boulevard Holdings Inc.	0.19	0.19	0.18	0.18	9,710,000
Imperial Res.	0.017	0.017	0.017	0.017	200,000
Ipva Corp.	2.18	2.18	2.18	2.18	404,000
Isim Communications Corp.	0.0575	0.0575	0.055	0.0575	5,800,000
Music Semiconductors Corp.	1.26	1.26	1.26	1.26	5,000
Transpic Broadband	5.1	5.2	4.65	5.1	1,267,000
Philweb Corp.	0.031	0.031	0.031	0.031	52,800,000
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES					
Asian Terminals Inc.	4.15	4.15	4.15	4.15	980,000
Abotiz Trans. Sys. Corp.	1.22	1.24	1.22	1.24	405,000
Int'l Container Term 1Sv	1.99	1.99	1.99	1.99	50,000
Lorenzo Shipping Corp.	1.18	1.18	1.18	1.18	50,000
HOTEL & LEISURE					
Leisure & Resorts Corp.	2.18	2.18	2.18	2.18	505,000
Premiere Ent. Prod. Inc.	0.33	0.35	0.33	0.35	1,800,000
Waterfront Phils. Inc.	0.59	0.6	0.58	0.6	4,350,000
EDUCATION					
Centro Escolar University	9	9	9	9	1,000
Ipeople Inc.	3	3	3	3	187,000
DIVERSIFIED SERVICES					
Macroasia Corp.	2.06	2.14	2.06	2.06	328,000
Paves Inc.	18	19.25	18	19.25	311,000
Prime Gaming Phils. Inc.	40	40	40	40	5,000
Philcomsat Holdings Corp.	1	1	1	1	1.6
MINING					
Apex Mining Co. Inc. A	6	6.1	6	6	4,961,000
Apex Mining Co. Inc B	6.3	6.3	6.1	6.1	506,000
Abra Mining & Industrial	0.011	0.011	0.011	0.011	48,000,000
Atlas Cons. Min & Dev't	8.8	9.7	8.8	9.7	12,185,000
Benguet Corp. A	9.5	9.8	9.4	9.6	566,000
Benguet Corp. B	25	25	25	25	10,000
Dizon Copper Silver Mines	2.06	2.06	2.06	2.06	24,000
Lepanto Cons. Mng. Co. A	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	670,000
Lepanto Cons. Mng. Co. B	0.28	0.28	0.28	0.28	28,000
Manila Mining Corp. A	0.02	0.023	0.02	0.022	429,700
Manila Mining Corp. B	0.024	0.025	0.024	0.025	174,900
Omicor Corp.	0.011	0.012	0.011	0.012	159,200
Philix Mining Corp.	4.15	4.2	4.15	4.2	2,495,000
Servira Mining Corp.	19	19	19	19	85,000
United Paragon Mining Co.	0.7	0.77	0.7	0.76	13,180
Volcan Ind'l	1.5	1.56	1.46	1.54	84,669
BASIC PETROLEUM CORP.					
Basic Petroleum Corp.	0.28	0.31	0.28	0.29	18,650,000
Oriental Pet. & Min. A	0.011	0.011	0.011	0.011	254,000
The Philodrill Corp. A	0.97	1.02	0.97	1.02	640,000
The Philodrill Corp. B	1.02	1.02	1.02	1.02	80,000
Pnoc Exploration Corp.-B	10	10.5	10	10.5	160,000
Petroenergy Res. Corp.					
CURRENCIES					
(As of December 15, 2006)					
	Euro	Dollar	Peso		
Country	Unit	Equivalent	Equivalent	Equivalent	
United States	Dollar	0.760572	1.000000	49.42	
Japan	Yen	0.006455	0.008487	0.41	
United Kingdom	Pound	1.491938	1.961600	96.95	
Hong Kong	Dollar	0.097874	0.128685	6.36	
Switzerland	Franc	0.626398	0.823588	40.70	
Canada	Dollar	0.657365	0.864304	42.72	
Singapore	Dollar	0.493461	0.648803	32.06	
Australia	Dollar	0.595966	0.783576	38.73	
Bahrain	Dinar*	0.202819	2.652731	131.17	
Saudi Arabia	Rial	0.0202819	0.266667	13.18	
Brunei	Dollar	0.491866	0.646705	31.96	
Indonesia	Rupiah	0.000084	0.000110	0.00	
Thailand	Baht	0.021613	0.028417	1.40	
UAE	Dirham	0.207088	0.272279	13.45	
Euro	Euro	1.000000	1.314800	64.90	
Korea	Won	0.000826	0.001086	0.05	
China	Yuan**	0.248756	0.127902	6.33	
Argentina	Peso	0.000076	0.000086	0.00	
Brazil	Real	0.355241	0.467071	23.01	
Denmark	Kroner	0.134815	0.176426	8.73	
India	Rupee	0.017069	0.022442	1.11	
Malaysia	Ringgit	0.214639	0.282207	13.90	
Mexico	New Peso	0.070620	0.092851	4.51	
New Zealand	Dollar	0.524786	0.689988	34.10	
South Africa	Rand	0.109140	0.143497	7.00	
Taiwan	NT Dollar	0.023337	0.030684	1.50	



A luxury of high-rise home options.



FILINVEST ALABANG

Home Offices

Uptown Residences

Dream Condos

Urban Pools



2301
CIVIC PRIME

Delivery - 2nd quarter 2006



CIVIC PRIME

Do business in the comfort of your own home with flexible studios ideal for South-based entrepreneurs and professionals. With amenities like a full bathroom and provisions for a pantry, you can live and work in absolute comfort right at the heart of a fast-growing urban center.

- Office/SOHO units ranging from 30 to 50 sqm
- Across Festival Supermall, near South Station
- Delivery - mid-2008

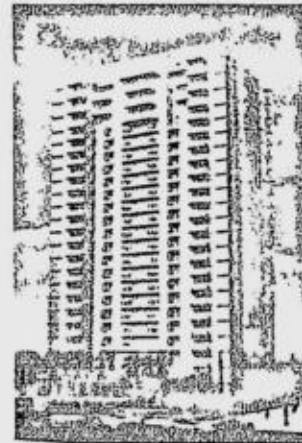
Call: 850-1818

E-mail: civicprime@filinvestcorpcty.com



VIVANT
FLATS

Delivery - 2nd half of 2006



LAVIE

Lush green environs and clear blue skies for a refreshing change. This is life at The Flats, a prime residential block in Filinvest Corporate City. Walking distance to Festival Supermall and Palms Country Club and across Southpoint Driving Range.

- 1-br and 2-br units ranging from 47 sqm to 125 sqm
- Delivery - mid-2009

Call: 850-0777

E-mail: lavieflats@filinvestcorpcty.com



ALDER
Delivery - 2nd half of 2006



BIRCH
Delivery - 2nd half of 2008

West Parc



CEDAR

Enjoy an environment that's both dynamic and relaxing. West Parc features accessibility without the feel of the concrete jungle. Near Alabang-Zapote Road, Westgate Center, PriceSmart and Alabang Town Center.

- Studio, 2-br and 3-br units ranging from 31 sqm to 91 sqm
- Delivery - 2nd half of 2009

Call: 850-0888

E-mail: westparc@filinvestcorpcty.com



Studio One

For the independent spirit, Studio One offers compact studio units in the heart of the Northgate Cyberzone information technology park, amidst outsourcing firms and I.T. companies. It's the practical choice for yuppies in the Alabang area who want to live close to their workplace and recreational centers.

- Studio units only
- Delivery - 2nd half of 2008

Call: 850-8111

E-mail: studioone@filinvestcorpcty.com

www.filcity.com

FILINVEST

INFOTECH

Text us your feedback: inquirer it name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Best local Web designers take center stage



WINNERS of the 9th Philippine Web Awards

By Abigail L. Ho

FILIPINOS HAVE ALWAYS BEEN KNOWN as a creative lot, with performance and visual arts seeming to be an innate part of each Filipino's existence. In the technology age, this creativity is now being expressed in the virtual world.

For the ninth year, the Philippine Web Awards (PWA), the local version of the prestigious International Webby Awards, honored the country's best and most creative Web designers, giving locally made websites a steppingstone to

the international arena.

This year's competition saw the entry of blogs and local government websites, showing the immense popularity of on-line journals and the government's thrust to accelerate the delivery of services via the worldwide Web.

Ibarra Gutierrez, Webby Ambassador for the Philippines and president of PWA organizer Media G8Way Corp., said Filipino Web designers, with their creativity and skill, had a shot at winning in the international Webby.

"I've always believed that local Web de-

signers are at par with their counterparts overseas, thus, if they choose to join, I'm sure they stand a good chance of winning," he said, noting that one of the early winners in the PWA also won a Webby award.

The 9th PWA, which took place last Dec. 7, had more than 100 entries, with 60 websites passing the scrutiny of very competent judges and making it to the finals.

The first blog plum went to Touched by an Angel (www.aboutmyrecovery.com), while the first local government awards went to Bulacan for the Best Provincial

Website, Naga City for the Best City Website, and the towns of Lugait in Misamis Oriental and Infanta in Quezon for Best Municipal Websites.

Other winners included Verdana Homes Mampalan (www.verdanahomesmampalan.com.ph) in the corporate category; China Bank Online (www.chinabank.ph) for banking and finance; holy cow! animation (www.holycowanimation.com) for small and medium enterprises, and the movie website of Ang Pamana: The Inheritance (www.angpamana-theinheritance-movie.com) for

lifestyle and leisure, and the provincial government of Bulacan (www.bulacan.gov.ph) for e-government.

Anino Shadowplay Collective (anino.sining.net) was declared the winner in the arts and portfolio category, Mapua Institute of Technology (www.mapua.edu.ph) for schools, Illustrador ng Kabataan (ink.group.ph) for organizations, GMA Network's public affairs website (www.gmanews.tv) for media, E-Yellow Pages (www.eyp.ph) for community and portal, Journey with Terry the Tarsier (www.terrythetarsier.com) for celebrities and personalities, and Joey Alaiza (joeyalaiza.com) for personal website.

Netizens also had a chance to cast votes for their favorite finalists via text messaging and an online poll posted on the 9th PWA Website. Those that garnered the highest number of SMS and online votes were declared People's Choice awarders.

The People's Choice awarders included Ayala Land (www.ayalaland.com.ph), Union Bank (www.unionbankph.com), 19East Bar and Grill (www.19east.com), Stephanie Coyoito Photography (www.stephaniecoyoito.com), Ang Dating Daan (www.angdatingdaan.org), UNTV-37 (www.untvweb.com), Kaanib.net (www.kaanib.net), Sexy Nomad (sexynomad.i.ph), The Official Website of Daniel Razon (www.danielrazon.com), and Superluwi - Pinoy na Astig (www.superluwi.com).

Best website awarders that were also declared fan favorites were the provincial government of Bulacan, Ang Pamana: The Inheritance, and Mapua Institute of Technology.

Declared the overall Most Popular Website was Ang Dating Daan, after getting the highest number of SMS and online votes.

GMAnews.tv editor in chief Malou Mangahas also took home the special award for best 10-word speech.

PC makers, program creators hope Microsoft's Vista jolts 2007

NEW YORK—SOMETIMES THE MARCH OF TECHNOLOGY can lull us to sleep.

Consider the personal computer. Even as PCs have developed insane levels of memory and power, enabling fantastic storehouses of videos and photos, the machines themselves have gotten less exciting. Owning a PC once felt like dipping a toe in the future. Now the device is as revolutionary as a refrigerator.

So for many buyers, price is the biggest factor. And that helps make the industry brutal for PC makers—a trend that came into sharp focus in 2006.

Worldwide PC sales were on track to grow a healthy 10

percent for the year, but not without turmoil. The top two vendors, Dell Inc. and Hewlett-Packard Co., stumbled through internal strife and endured a third quarter in which US PC sales actually dropped for the first time since 2002.

And yet at the dawn of 2007, PC makers are talking a big game, arguing that buyers should open their wallets a bit wider than usual. The occasion? The new Windows Vista from Microsoft Corp., the first new Windows PC operating system since 2001. It hit the business market Nov. 30 and goes to consumers Jan. 30.

Windows runs 90 percent of the world's PCs and is ex-



MICROSOFT chief operating officer Kevin Turner speaks at a news conference on Dec. 13 at Microsoft headquarters in Redmond, Wash., announcing a three-year agreement between Microsoft and Hewlett-Packard Co. to deliver hardware, software and services for business customers.

that would otherwise come with the machine.

At rival Hewlett-Packard, executives are pleased that Vista at the very least gives tech buyers something to consider. With Vista hitting the market at the same time as other products from Microsoft, including the Office 2007 line of software and back-end server products for businesses, HP hopes companies call on its \$15

billion services unit to help them figure out how to proceed.

"This is a point of disruption in the market," said Margaret Lewis, a marketing director for chip maker Advanced Micro Devices Inc. She says Vista's hardware demands will justify big investments AMD has made in next-generation chip designs and its \$5-billion acquisition of graphics chip maker ATI. Meanwhile, Microsoft's other software launches for businesses could prompt companies buying new servers to consider getting ones with AMD chips instead of those from Intel Corp., a decision that tech buyers are willing to mull over only every so often.

Even companies that wouldn't appear to have obvious links to Microsoft have a lot riding on Vista.

Take CoreStreet Ltd., which sells "smart cards," authentication software and other access-control services. In the past, to make sure its programs worked on PCs, CoreStreet had to work around some idiosyncratic programming particulars in Windows. But now CoreStreet's job is getting a lot easier, because the revamped Vista includes much better support for third-party authentication services, said John McGeachie, CoreStreet's vice president of engineering.

Security

Another set of Vista ripple effects comes from new features in the operating system that other companies charge for. For example, higher-end versions of Vista include a free encryption service that can cloak the entire contents of a disk drive from unauthorized eyes.

This is a familiar pattern at Microsoft, which has used its domination of the desktop to introduce everyday computer users to more and more computing innovations (the generous interpretation) or to put rivals on the ropes (the antitrust cases' interpretation).

But at PGP Corp., a seller of encryption software, the free encryption in Vista is a blessing, according to Jon Callas, PGP's chief technology officer. He thinks Vista's encryption product will raise awareness of the technology, which PGP can capitalize on with its more comprehensive, flexible program.

"When Microsoft starts moving into our territory," Callas said, "it can create healthy competition." AP

For inquiries, please call
BRIDGE DISTRIBUTION, INC.
Tel. No. 281-0841 n/24
Address: 203 E. Rodriguez St., 4th Fl., Q.C.
Email: sales@bridgepc.com

There can only be one **BenQ**
In Power, in Quality

Robinsons Land earmarks P8B for 8 projects

More Shell stations to sell ethanol blended gas

By Abigail L. Ho

PILIPINAS SHELL PETROLEUM Corp. has committed to make available ethanol-blended gasoline in 100 of its service stations by mid-2007.

Shell country chair Edgar Chua said the oil firm was currently selling ethanol-blended gasoline only in 40 of its stations.

Shell started selling gasoline with a 10-percent ethanol blend in May. Chua said sales volumes had been 'good' but declined to give exact numbers.

Independent oil firm Seaoil Petroleum Corp. pioneered in selling the ethanol-blended gasoline directly from its stations' pumps in the country.

Seaoil now plans to put up a 100,000 liters-a-day ethanol refinery to supply its requirement. It currently imports ethanol from Brazil.

Under the Biofuels Act of 2006, all diesel-fed vehicles should use a minimum 1-percent biodiesel blend within three months of the effectivity of the law. Gasoline should have at least a 5-percent ethanol blend within two years of the law's effectivity.

The mandated blend will rise to 2 percent for biodiesel after two years, and to at least 10 percent for bio-ethanol after four years.

Apart from the ready market for biofuels that the Biofuels Act of 2006 creates, the law also provides incentives for the production, distribution and use of locally produced biofuels.

Based on the Department of Energy's estimates, using a 1-percent biodiesel and a 5-percent bio-ethanol blend by next year will generate foreign exchange savings of around \$167 million a year.

Taking advantage of boom in office space, residential markets

By Elizabeth L. Sanchez

ROBINSONS LAND CORP. OF the Gokongwei family is setting aside P7 billion to P8 billion for projects next year.

The company will undertake eight projects next year to take advantage of the boom in the office space and residential markets, RLC president Frederick Go said.

These projects include a third tower for Cybergate Center in Mandaluyong, which caters to business process outsourcing (BPO) firms. Cybergate Tower 3, which spans about 43,000 square meters of leasable space

will have 37 floors. To be built next to RLC's recently completed Tower 2 in the same area, Tower 3 is scheduled for completion in the first quarter of 2008.

Go said RLC would also construct next year another office building in Quezon City. He, however, refused to divulge the details of these projects.

"We will continue to cater to the demand from the strong BPO and call center market," said Danilo Ignacio, general manager for RLC's high rise buildings division.

Portion of next year's budget will go to ongoing projects such

as the 38-storey Fifth Avenue Place residential condominium in Fort Bonifacio; the 30-storey Gateway Garden Ridge in Mandaluyong; One, Two and Three Adriatico Place in Ermita, Manila; McKinley Park condominium in Fort Bonifacio; townhouse project Otis 888 Residences in Paco, Manila, and the Woodville Viverde Mansions in Parañaque.

Go said RLC would use mostly internally-generated cash to finance its projects.

RLC earlier said it would spend P15 billion in the next two years for new malls, offices, land acquisitions and housing projects after raising

fresh capital from the stock market. RLC is earmarking 40 percent of its P15-billion budget for new malls in Dumaguete, Bulacan, Paco (in Manila), Tagaytay and Davao as well as for the renovation of existing malls in Ermita (Manila) and Bacolod. About 30 percent of the budget will be spent for new office spaces catering to BPO firms.

RLC is one of the largest BPO lessors in the country with 116,000 square meters of leasable BPO space. It plans to construct an additional 80,000 square meters of leasable space in the next 18 months.

Mergers, acquisitions seen in telecom sector

By Riza T. Olchondra

THE NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS Commission (NTC) said stiff competition in the industry might force certain telecom companies to merge.

"M&A's (mergers and acquisitions) will be the way of the future for telcos," NTC common carriers authorization department director Edgardo Cabarios said in an interview.

He said the market was getting saturated, so telcos had to either operate in more areas or offer value-added services.

"However, to do this requires a lot of investment. It would be more cost effective for telcos to merge. Big telcos could acquire smaller ones, since the small ones are not able to maximize their investments and resources due to small subscriber base," Cabarios said.

He said these resources could be better used by three or four large telcos.

"At the very least, there could be more strategic partnerships between telcos or between carriers

and related firms, like the operational tie-up between Extelcom and ETPL."

The four players right now are Smart, Globe, Digitel-Sun and Extelcom. Extelcom, however, is a far fourth and is not really presenting much competition. To be competitive, Extelcom may need to have more partners.

Cabarios said the local industry might follow the M&A trend seen overseas.

Cabarios noted that the Ayala-led Globe, which took over Islacom in 2001, could acquire another telco.

Globe had said it was thinking of buying Bayan Telecommunications Inc. (Bayantel).

Globe started talking to Bayantel about the plan in 1998, but no agreement has been reached until now. Ablaza said they are looking into Bayantel's assets that are more for potential complementation of our wireline business."

Those assets are the copper lines or installed network. Bayantel currently has 227,057 subscribers, although it has installed 443,910 basic lines.

ADB: The brain drain

THE ASIAN DEVELOPMENT Bank (ADB) has sounded the alarm. If the so-called brain drain goes on at its present fast pace, there may not be enough Filipinos left for a prospective foreign investor to hire. The investor then will be forced to go somewhere else.

No less than the Asian Institute of Management (AIM) has chimed in to second the motion.

With all due respect, I disagree. Before World War II, most of the Filipinos who went to work abroad were Ilocanos fleeing their hard-scrabble land to work at sugar cane fields in Hawaii and the cabbage and strawberry patches in California. The US naval base in Cavite also attracted some Filipinos who wanted to see the world.

After the war, US hospitals discovered the Filipino doctor and nurse. Trained in American medicine and fluent in English, the Filipino doctor and nurse started moving to the US. The so-called brain drain had begun.

Today, there is not a single hospital in the US that does not have a Filipino doctor and nurse. And all sorts of professionals and technicians have joined the migration.

There are now eight million Filipinos working or living abroad. Filipino engineers are building roads and bridges in Afghanistan. Our able-bodied seamen serve on oil tankers and American aircraft carriers. Our computer technicians and heavy equipment operators are in the Middle East. And, last but not least, Filipino domestic helpers take care of the children and the elderly in countless households around the world while their employers are at work. The list is almost endless.

But, at the same time, the pool is almost bottomless. Over 21 million Filipinos—that's about one-fourth of the total populace and larger than the entire Australian population—are in our universal educational system.

QUESTIONS OF POLICIES

Honesto C. General

Public education (buttressed by a well-developed private education) is the country's largest enterprise. The national budget for education has always been bigger than that for national defense. There are more than twice as many teachers as there are soldiers/policemen.

But what about the quality of our education? There is always room for improvement. But if a child is bright enough, even if he is born in a far distant barrio, there is always a public school nearby where tuition is free up to high school. Scholarships are available all the way to a doctorate's degree.

Almost half a million graduate from our colleges and universities every year in a dizzying array of disciplines, from accounting to actuarial science, from hotel management to computer imaging.

Our colleges and universities can accommodate quite comfortably the entire population of Singapore.

But are there enough experienced personnel around? Of course, there are. The prospective investor will find the right staffing, from professionals to technicians to rank and file.

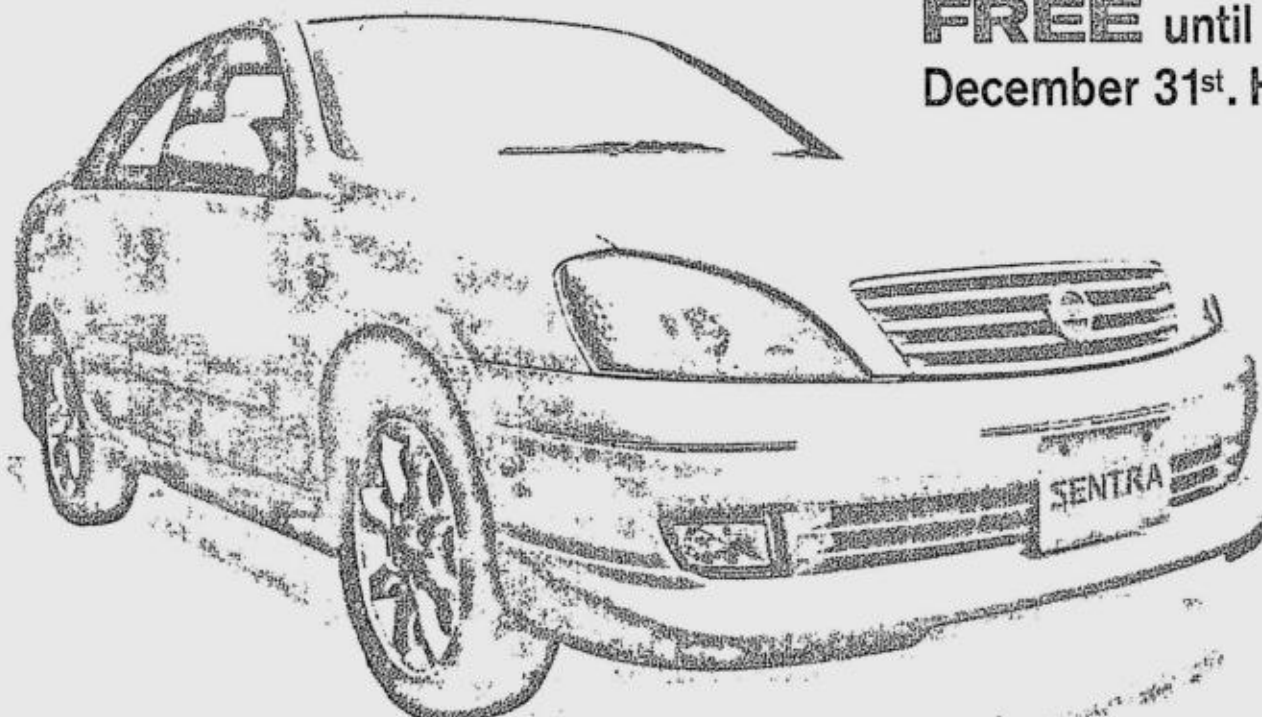
On top of everything else, the Philippines is the third largest English speaking country in the world, next only to the US and the UK. The Filipino worker learns fast because, even if he does not speak English well, he understands instructions given to him in the English language. World champion Manny Pacquiao was the only foreign boxer in Las Vegas who spoke English—in his own word, absolutely.

What the government should

REAR SPOILER LED
SIGNAL LAMP REAR
SKIRT FRONT CHIN
SPOILER SIDE
SKIRT A P50,000 VALUE!

THE SENTRA CHRISTMAS SPORTS PACKAGE

Everything absolutely
FREE until
December 31st. Hurry.



Applicable to Sentra 1.6L models only. Other special financing packages available for other models.

Per DTI-Region IV-A Permit No. 12-174, Series of 2006.

SHIFT...the future



* Assembled and distributed by
NISSAN MOTOR PHILIPPINES, INC.

visit www.nissan.ph

METRO MANILA
NISSAN GALLERY QUEZON AVE.
Tel. 751-5308 Fax 740-3066
NISSAN SHAW CENTER
Tel. 722-7876/7576 Fax 2550/8487
NISSAN U.N. AVE., MANILA
Tel. 400-1020/2177 Fax 4533 404-2439
NISSAN WESTGATE ALABANG
Tel. 772-827 to 30 Fax 775-0239
NISSAN MANILA, INC.
Tel. 252-3566, 251-9060 to 63

NISSAN NORTH EDSA (Baintawak)
Tel. 330-5331 Fax 233-2482/265
361-9995 Fax 455-8990
MANTRADE DEVELOPMENT CORP.
Tel. 843-3316 to 23
NISSAN GALLERY ORTIGAS
Tel. 635-5088 Fax 438-4537
NISSAN COMMONWEALTH
Tel. 832-0426, 951-2928 Fax 931-6087

PROVINCIAL
NISSAN SOUTHWOODS
Tel. (045) 430-1683, (049) 241-3040, (02) 699-2400
ROYCE MOTORS SANTIAGO
Tel. (078) 682-8701/6707
ROYCE MOTORS CABANATUAN
Tel. (044) 463-3358, 600-5329
ROYCE MOTORS PAMPANGA
Tel. (045) 961-7773/7774
NISSAN BACOLOD
Tel. (034) 434-8051 to 52, (034) 435-1102

NISSAN CEBU DISTRIBUTORS, INC.
Tel. (032) 346-0350, 346-8422
NISSAN ILOILO (S & J Motors)
Tel. (033) 320-4051 to 53
NISSAN GALLERY CAGAYAN DE ORO
Tel. Nos. 088-855-8881

LAST CHANCE TO AVAIL OF AUCTION PRICES 2006!

"The Price is Right" Auction

Equitable PCI BANK
Your Bank of Choice

AS LOW AS
10%
DOWNPAYMENT

AS LOW AS
10%
INTEREST P. A.

AS LONG AS
10 yrs.
TO PAY

INSTANT KNOCKOUT
JUST PAY 10% OF
THE MINIMUM BID PRICE AS
INITIAL DOWNPAYMENT
TO OWN THE PROPERTY!

ANTIPOLLO, RIZAL

EPCI ANT068 RSD LOT
FOREST HILLS SUBD.
San Isidro, Antipollo
(Near Cherry Farm)
LOT AREA MIN. BID PRICE
554sqm P 1,240,960
432sqm P 1,240,960
396sqm P 1,188,000

EPCI ANT069 RSD LOT
LA 324sqm.
(near Tres Hermanas Subd)
SUN VALLEY SUBD, Inasan
Min. Bid Price: P 972,000

EPCI ANT070 RSD LOT
LA 1,899sqm.
(near Unciano Hospital)
Golden Shower Drive,
VILL GRANDE SUBD
Min. Bid Price: P 443,140

EPCI ANT070A RSD LOT
PARK RIDGE ESTATE II,
BRGY. MAYAMOT
(Near Valley Golf)
LOT AREA MIN. BID PRICE
439sqm P 1,074,500
490sqm P 1,200,500
550sqm P 1,078,000

EPCI RZL224 RSD LOT
LA 1,274sqm.
(near St. Benedict School)
Bristol St. TOWN & COUNTRY
ESTATE, Brgy. Mayamot
Min. Bid Price: P 3,567,200

EPCI RZL226 RSD LOT
LA 805sqm. (near Fibertex)
AZUCENA DRIVE & BEVERLY
HILLS SUBD
Min. Bid Price: P 1,408,750

ANGONO, RIZAL

EPCI RZL227 RSD LOT
VILLAGE EAST III
Bo. Darangan
LOT AREA MIN. BID PRICE
204 sqm P 255,000
206 sqm P 257,500
213 sqm P 260,250

BARAS, RIZAL

EPCI RZL221 RSD LOT
LA 4,418sqm.
(near Police Station)
Sino Nagatong, BARAS
Min. Bid Price: P 2,650,500

CAINTA, RIZAL

EPCI RZL221-1 RSD BLDG
LA 580sqm. FA 370sqm
(near Maricao)
Balmori St., BROOKSIDE
HILLS SUBD, Cainta
Min. Bid Price: P 1,864,863

EPCI RZL222 RSD LOT
LA 400sqm.
(near Eastridge Golf Club)
VILLAGE EAST EXEC
HOMES, San Isidro, Angono
Min. Bid Price: P 660,000

EPCI RZL223-2 RSD BLDG
LA 485sqm. FA 290
Clinton St., PARK PLACE SUBD,
Cainta (near Robinsons)
Min. Bid Price: P 3,836,857

CALOOCAN

EPCI CAL003 RSD LOT
LA 6,500sqm (near Good
Harvest Park Subd.)
Bgy. Camarin, NOVALICHES
Min. Bid Price: P 5,850,000

EPCI CAL004-2 STRY
HOUSE & LOT
LA 225sqm. FA 100sqm
(near Iglesia ni Cristo)
RAINBOW VILLAGE
Bgy. Deparo
Min. Bid Price: P 1,860,000

GREENHILLS, SAN JUAN

EPCI SJ051 RSD CONDO
w/ 1-PARKING
FA 276.20sqm (near
Greenhills Shopping Center)
CONTINENTAL COURT
Annapolis St., Greenhills
Min. Bid Price: P 6,954,570

EPCI SJ053 COMM. CONDO
w/ 1-PARKING
FA 158.76sqm.
(near AMA Computer College)
GOLDLAND TOWER COND.,
Eisenhower St., Greenhills
Min. Bid Price: P 4,445,280

LAS PIÑAS

EPCI LSP05-2 STRY
HOUSE & LOT
LA 640sqm. FA 420sqm.
(near SM)
Brgy. EXEC VILLAGE, BGY.
Almendra Uno
Min. Bid Price: P 5,228,000

MAKATI

EPCI MAK006 RSD CONDO
w/ 1-PARKING
WEST TOWER CONDO,
Evangelista St.
(near AMA Computer College)
FLOOR AREA MIN. BID PRICE
219.39sqm P 5,888,000
228.92sqm P 5,270,900

MANDALUYONG

EPCI MAN009 OFC CONDO
PARAGON PLAZA CONDO,
Edsa cor. Reliance St.
(near MRT - Shaw Station)
FLOOR AREA MIN. BID PRICE
199.18sqm P 6,971,300
199.99sqm P 6,999,650

MANILA

EPCI MNL011 RSD CONDO
w/ 1-PARKING
FA 420sqm. (cor. Rizal Ave.)
MARLY MANSION, Sta. Cruz
Min. Bid Price: P 8,400,000

MUNTINLUPA

EPCI MUN013 HOUSE & LOT
LA 267sqm. FA 360sqm
(near SM Mall of Asia)
VICTORIA HOMES
SUBDIVISION
Min. Bid Price: P 1,892,893.33

NAVOTAS

EPCI NV017 2-STRY RSD
BLDG
LA 300sqm. FA 437sqm
(near Melabon Elm Sch)
NORTH MEVILLE PARK
SUBD. Bo. Tanza
Min. Bid Price: P 744,857

PARAÑAQUE

EPCI PRQ028 RSD CONDO
w/ 1-PARKING
TROPICANA VILLA COND,
Quirino Ave. (near Bicutan
Roadside Church)
FLOOR AREA MIN. BID PRICE
193.87sqm P 2,653,350.00
193.87sqm P 2,762,647.50
242.17sqm P 3,796,014.75

EPCI PRQ027 RSD LOT
GARDENVALE TOWNHOMES
San Dionisio
(near SM Sucat)
LOT AREA MIN. BID PRICE
56 sqm P 448,000
61 sqm P 463,000
69 sqm P 544,000

EPCI PRQ018 RSD CONDO
w/ 1-PARKING
MAKATI SOUTH HILLS
ARCADE Bgy. Bataog
(near SM Bicutan)
FLOOR AREA MIN. BID PRICE
107.35sqm P 1,616,230
136.31sqm P 2,044,650
136.31sqm P 2,044,650

EPCI PRQ021 RSD CONDO
w/ 1-PARKING
FA 392.80 sqm.
(near Merville Village)
ISABELLE GARDEN
COMMERCIAL SOUTH
CENTER POINT, Bgy. Woodmark
Min. Bid Price: P 7,856,000

EPCI PRQ022 RSD CONDO
w/ 2 PARKING
PACIFIC COAST PLAZA,
Bgy. Tambo (near Airport)
FLOOR AREA MIN. BID PRICE
164.69sqm P 3,498,175
172.69sqm P 3,669,682

EPCI PRQ023 RSD LOT
LA 549sqm.
(near Parañaque City Hall)
UNITED PARANQUE VILLAGE
SUBD. Bgy. San Isidro
Min. Bid Price: P 1,588,000

EPCI PRQ025 RSD LOT
LA 1,145sqm.
(near SM Bicutan)
STA. THERESA SUBD,
Brgy. San Martin
Min. Bid Price: P 5,152,500

EPCI PRQ026 RSD LOT
LA 435sqm.
(near SM Bicutan)
MARCELO GREEN VILLAGE
MIN. BID PRICE: P 1,983,800

PASIG

EPCI PSQ034 RESTAURANT
AREA w/ 3PRKGS EACH
Phil. Stock Exchange Center
West Towers, Exchange Rd
cor. Pearl Dr., Ortigas Center
Pasig City (near Mega Mall,
Shangri-La Mall & The Forum)
FLOOR AREA MIN. BID PRICE
162.72 sqm P 5,931,600
238.25 sqm P 8,313,000
247.55 sqm P 8,506,800
364.47 sqm P 12,715,920

QUEZON CITY

EPCI QG035 RSD CONDO
w/ 1-PARKING
CHATEAU VERDE CONDO,
CHATEAU VERDE VALLE
VERDE, E. Rodriguez Ave.,
Bgy. Ugong, (near SM)
Hypermarket and Tenderslot
FLOOR AREA MIN. BID PRICE
127.35 sqm P 3,817,800
168.09 sqm P 5,042,700
232.41 sqm P 6,972,300

QUEZON CITY

EPCI QG036 COMM. UNITS
TEMPUS PLACE
CONDOMINIUM, Olliman
(near QC Hall)
FLOOR AREA MIN. BID PRICE
69.52sqm P 874,400
69.84sqm P 878,300
69.84sqm P 979,300

QUEZON CITY

EPCI QG037 RSD TOWNHSE
CAPITOL GOLF
TOWNHOMES & GOLFERS
VILLAS, Capitol Hills
(near Celebrity Sports)
FLOOR AREA MIN. BID PRICE
230.61sqm P 3,674,284
230.61sqm P 4,266,265

QUEZON CITY

EPCI QG040 RSD CONDO
w/ 1-PARKING
FA 120sqm. (near E.
Rodriguez St. Park)
WHITEHASC CONDO,
G. Araneta Ave.
Min. Bid Price: P 1,800,000

QUEZON CITY

EPCI QC041 RSD LOT
LA 251sqm
(near Roosevelt Ave.)
De Vera St. SAN FRANCISCO
DEL MONTE
Min. Bid Price: P 2,133,500

QUEZON CITY

EPCI QC042 RSD LOT
LA 400sqm.
(near Quirino Ave.)
LELAND DRIVE, Balintawak Ave.
Min. Bid Price: P 2,240,000

STA. CRUZ, RIZAL

EPCI RZL268 HOUSE & LOT
LA 78.014sqm.
(near Bankers Hill)
CAVALIER VILLAGE, Sta. Cruz
Min. Bid Price: P 2,683,250

SAN JUAN

EPCI SJ052 RSD CONDO
w/ 1-PARKING
FA 333.03sqm.
(near Café Isabel)
CYPRESS MANSION COND,
P. Guverna St.
Min. Bid Price: P 5,995,000

TAGUIG

EPCI TAG056 COMM. LOT
LA 5,855sqm. (near C-5)
[2 contiguous lots]
Int. lots BGY. SANBANG
Min. Bid Price: P 8,367,300

VALENZUELA

EPCI VAL057 LOFTY INTD'L
BLDG
LA 772sqm. FA 510sqm
(near Dulong Tungkang Market)
Dulong Tungkang St.,
BGY. MALINTA
Min. Bid Price: P 2,619,400

EPCI VAL058 INTD'L w/
WAREHOUSE
LA 3,987sqm. FA 2,500sqm
(formerly Finesse Food
Products)
Pasolo Road, BGY. PASOLO
Min. Bid Price: P 6,847,250

VALENZUELA

EPCI VAL059 RSD LOT
LA 600sqm. (near Vista
Verde North Exec. Vll)
VISTA VERDE SUBD. Bgy.
Lawang Bato,
Min. Bid Price: P 1,530,000

VALENZUELA

EPCI VAL060 RSD LOT
LA 1,672sqm.
(near Parañaque Catholic Church)
TANDANG MANANG ST.
Brgy. Parada
Min. Bid Price: P 3,744,000

EPCI VAL062 INTD'L w/
WAREHOUSE
LA 1,167sqm. FA 800
(near Maricao Interchange)
PASO DE BLAS, MALINTA
Min. Bid Price: P 7,974,300

VALENZUELA

EPCI VAL063 COMM. LOT
LA 3,102sqm.
(Infront of Valenzuela Cockpit)
McArthur Highway,
MALANDAY
Min. Bid Price: P 32,571,000

VALENZUELA

EPCI VAL065 INTD'L w/
WAREHOUSE
LA 7,978sqm. FA 600sqm
(near Splash Manufacturing)
BAGONG PILIPINO
COMPOUND, BRGY.
CANUJAY
Min. Bid Price: P 42,902,950

LUZON

BATAAN

EPCI BTN116 RSD LOT
THE STRAND SUBDIVISION
Brgy. nagbalayog, Morong
(near Waterfront Resort)
LOT AREA MIN. BID PRICE
567 sqm P 607,000
694 sqm P 684,000
720 sqm P 720,000

BATAAN

EPCI BTN117 RSD LOT
SEACREST SUBDIVISION
Brgy. alates - asin, Mariveles
Overlooking Corregidor Island
LOT AREA MIN. BID PRICE
467 sqm P 550,400
515 sqm P 618,000
512 sqm P 636,480
753 sqm P 783,120

BATAAN

EPCI BTN 114 RSD LOT
LA 100sqm (near TESDA)
STA. MONICA HOMES,
CAMAYA MARVELES
Min. Bid Price: P 150,000

BATAAN

EPCI BTN 115 RESORT LOT
LA 2,240sqm (near
Montemar Resort)
MONTESMAR SUBD, BO.
PASINAY (IBIS)
Min. Bid Price: P 955,825

BATAAN

EPCI BAT072 HOUSE & LOT
LA 540 sqm. FA 400sqm
Maharika Subd., Poblacion,
Lupa City (near SM Lupa)
Min. Bid Price: P 1,890,000

BATAAN

EPCI BAT074 HOUSE & LOT
LA 84sqm. FA 600sqm
(near Base View Subd.)
Hernandez St., MATIAS NA
KAYOY
Min. Bid Price: P 2,002,686

BATAAN

EPCI BAT078 RSD LOT
LA 271sqm
(near Country Club)
BO. STA. RITA, BATANGAS
Min. Bid Price: P 433,000

CAVITE

EPCI CVT122 RESIDENTIAL
RESORT CONDO
FA 81.86sqm.
(w/In Puerto Azul)
VISTA DE LORO HTS, Ternate
Min. Bid Price: P 2,046,500

EPCI CVT123 HOUSE & LOT
LA 166sqm. FA
(near Isl. Junction)
Maharika Highway, Ipi,
ECHAGUE
Min. Bid Price: P 350,000

CAVITE

EPCI CVT124 INDST'L LOT
LA 2,250sqm.
(near SM Robinsons Dasmari)
FIRST CITYLAND HEAVY
INDUST. CENTER,
Dasmariñas
Min. Bid Price: P 5,265,000

CAVITE

EPCI CVT125 RSD LOT
LA 775sqm.
(near Indst'l Zone)
MAGUYAM RD.
Brgy. Maguyam Siliang
Min. Bid Price: P 1,395,000

CAVITE

EPCI CVT126 RSD RESORT
CONDO w/ 1-PARKING
LA 136sqm. (w/In Puerto Azul)
CLUSTER OCEAN VILLAS,
Ternate
Min. Bid Price: P 2,312,000

CAVITE

EPCI CVT127 RSD RESORT
CONDO w/ 1-PARKING
MANILA SOUTHWOODS
GOLF VILLAS, Carmona
(near South Luzon
Expressway)
FLOOR AREA MIN. BID PRICE
190.49sqm P 5,181,600
218.16sqm P 5,933,850

CAVITE

EPCI CVT128 RSD RESORT LOT
MANILA SOUTHWOODS
RESORT, ESTATE, Carmona
(along South Expressway)
LOT AREA MIN. BID PRICE
575sqm P 2,228,000
927sqm P 4,496,000

CAVITE

EPCI CVT130 RSD LOT
ORCHARD GOLF &
COUNTRY CLUB, PH1,
DASMA
(near SM Mallino)
LOT AREA MIN. BID PRICE
541sqm P 1,597,750
508sqm P 1,782,000
670sqm P 1,842,500

CAVITE

EPCI CVT131B RSD LOT
THE ORCHARD
RESIDENTIAL ESTATES
GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB
PHASE 7, Brgy. Sainon
(along South Expressway)
LOT AREA MIN. BID PRICE
294sqm P 624,750
300sqm P 637,500
359sqm P 763,300

CAVITE

EPCI CVT135 RSD LOT
UNWINDING COASTAL CITY
SUBD.
(near CEFZA Tzan)
LOT AREA MIN. BID PRICE
180sqm P 189,000
240sqm P 442,400
243sqm P 561,375

CAVITE

EPCI CVT138 RSD LOT
ISLAND PARK SUBDIVISION
BRGY. PALA-PALA
DASMARIÑAS, CAVITE
(near SM & Robinsons)
Min. Bid Price: P 637,500

CAVITE

EPCI IS166 INTD'L w/
WAREHOUSE
LA 106,841sqm. FA
2,454sqm.
(near SSS Bldg)
Sgt. De Roma, Brgy. III,
SAN PABLO CITY
Min. Bid Price: P 4,314,888

CAVITE

EPCI IS167 RSD LOT
LA 350sqm.
Brgy. Magaysay, NAGUILIAN
Min. Bid Price: P 140,000

CAVITE

EPCI IS168 RSD LOT
LA 2,800sqm.
Brgy. Magaysay, NAGUILIAN
Min. Bid Price: P 840,000

CAVITE

EPCI IS169 RSD LOT
LA 6,763sqm.
Brgy. Magaysay, NAGUILIAN
Min. Bid Price: P 1,623,200

CAVITE

EPCI IS170 RSD LOT
LA 300sqm.
Maharika Subdivision,
CAJAYAN
Min. Bid Price: P 495,000

CAVITE

EPCI IS171 AGRI - LOT
LA 10,000 sqm.
Tagaran, CAJAYAN CITY
Min. Bid Price: P 600,000

CAVITE

EPCI IS172 RSD LOT
LA 924sqm.
(near ICE PLANT)
Bo. Tagaran, CAJAYAN CITY
Min. Bid Price: P 369,600

CAVITE

EPCI IS173-1 STRY
HOSPITAL BLDG
LA 2,503 sqm. FA 750sqm
(near GSIS)
Maharika Highway, TAGARAN
CAJAYAN
Min. Bid Price: P 3,817,100

CAVITE

EPCI IS174 RSD LOT
LA 924sqm.
Bo. Tagaran, CAJAYAN CITY
Min. Bid Price: P 369,600

LAGUNA

EPCI LGN168 RSD LOT
VILLA SEGROVA, Bgy. Pulong
Sta. Cruz, Sta. Rosa
(beside Enchanted Kingdom)
LOT AREA MIN. BID PRICE
132 sqm P 395,000
173 sqm P 519,000
189 sqm P 587,000

LAGUNA

EPCI LGN169 COMMERCIAL LOT
SOUTHPOINT, Cabuyao
(beside MAPUA University)
LOT AREA MIN. BID PRICE
1,260 sqm P 7,560,000
1,377 sqm P 8,262,000
1,447 sqm P 8,862,000

LAGUNA

EPCI LGN170 RESIDENTIAL LOT
SOUTHPOINT, Cabuyao
(beside MAPUA University)
LOT AREA MIN. BID PRICE
160 sqm P 504,000
187 sqm P 523,600
204 sqm P 571,200

LAGUNA

EPCI LGN191 RSD LOT
RICHWOOD PARK VILLAGE
Brgy. San Francisco,
San Pablo City
(Beside Green Valley Subd.)
LOT AREA MIN. BID PRICE
190sqm P 304,000
235sqm P 376,000
259sqm P 414,400

LAGUNA

EPCI LGN192 RSD LOT
CALRAYA SPRINGS
MOUNTAIN SUBD.
Bo. Talangban, Cavinti
(near Calraya man made lake)
LOT AREA MIN. BID PRICE
555 sqm P 444,000
604 sqm P 543,600
757 sqm P 2,271,000

LAGUNA

EPCI LGN193 RSD LOT
LAGUNA HILLS
Brgy. Bucal, Calamba
(near PANOSOL)
LOT AREA MIN. BID PRICE
220 sqm P 580,000
220 sqm P 616,000
242 sqm P 726,000

LAGUNA

EPCI LGN194 RSD LOT
MAKILING HEIGHTS RESORT
SUBD., Bgy. Dampall,
AURORA
Los Baros
(near Splash Mountain)
LOT

Congress approves P7-B budget for DA

Experts urge gov't to hike spending on rice, be more active in boosting agri production

By Christine A. Gaylican

CONGRESS HAS APPROVED A P7-BILLION budget for the Department of Agriculture's 2007 post-harvest program, according to Agriculture Secretary Arthur C. Yap.

The bicameral committee, composed of members of the House of Representatives and the Senate, passed the budget to enable the DA to reduce agricultural production losses, Yap said.

Specifically, the budget will be used to improve drying and storage facilities for chief commodities, such as rice and corn, as well as upgrade cold chain facilities for high-value crops.

The DA expects the initial P1-billion allocation for its post-harvest program before the end of the month, Yap said.

The initial allocation would arrive just in time for the harvest of the dry season cropping, Yap said. "We need to put up the facilities that will lessen post-harvest losses."

Farmers lose as much as 48 percent of their annual harvests due to inadequate or non-existent post-harvest facilities.

Also, rice experts from around the Asia-Pacific are urging the Philippine government to increase public spending on rice and take an active role in boosting production as what Asia's top rice exporting countries have done.

"Put your money where your mouth is," was what the experts in effect told the country's top policy makers in a book, "State Intervention in the Rice Sector in Selected Countries."

The book is published by the South East Asia Regional Initiatives for Community Empowerment (SEARice) and Rice Watch

and Action Network (R1).

"State intervention was a key element in increasing rice production in Asia's top rice producers," said Elenita Dano, one of the authors of the book.

The SEARice book tries to draw lessons from the experiences of rice exporting countries like Thailand, Vietnam, the United States and China, as well as rice importing ones, like Indonesia and Malaysia. The experts analyzed data of each country's rice industry as well as agricultural policies.

According to the study, strong state intervention on seed technology, irrigation, fertilizers, post-harvest handling, credit, research and others, played a critical role in increasing rice production—something which has not yet been done in the Philippines on a large scale.

The book cited how Thailand's rice production outpaced population growth since the mid-1990s, largely because of heavy public investments on road networks and irrigation.

While Filipino farmers are made to abandon traditional rice varieties and rely on hybrid seeds that they have to buy from multinational firms, Thai farmers have succeeded in improving traditional rice varieties that commanded high prices in the market, Dano said during a briefing.

R1 Rice Network Coalition lead convenor Jessica Cantos-Reyes said the Philippine government's thrust to promote high-yielding hybrid rice at the expense of the traditional rice varieties limits farmers' access to seed production.

"To exclude poor farmers in the rice production equation is a hindrance to a self-sufficient economy," said Cantos-Reyes.

Subastahan sa Paskuhan

December 20, 2006

Riverview Resort & Conference Center, National Highway, Parian, Calamba Laguna

Registration starts at 4:00 PM
Auction proper starts at 5:00 PM

Luzon Development Bank

LAS PIÑAS Text 0918-9048230	TAGUIG Text 0920-9222495	CAVITE Text 0918-9048230	LDB LGN186 HOUSE & LOT L.A. 883 sqm. F.A. 240 sqm. Malaban, Biñan Min. Bid Price: P 1,869,934
LDB_LP258 HOUSE & LOT L.A. 100 sqm. F.A. 200 sqm. Almanza (near Alabang Town Center & SM Southmall) Min. Bid Price: P 764,782	LDB_TAG262 HOUSE & LOT L.A. 211 sqm. F.A. 241 sqm. Signal Village (near Comm'l area & FTI) Min. Bid Price: P 450,000	LDB_CVT117 RESORT L.A. 4,726 sqm. Bo. Calubcob, Naic Min. Bid Price: P 4,680,461	LDB LGN192 COMML LOT L.A. 4,000 sqm. Bo. Pagsawitan, Sta. Cruz Min. Bid Price: P 18,222,610
QUEZON CITY	BATANGAS Text 0917-5443063	LDB_CVT118 COMML BLDG. w/ CANTEN L.A. 2,810 sqm. F.A. 2,183 sqm. Dalahican, Noveleta (near Josephine Resort) Min. Bid Price: P 16,494,643	LDB LGN192A COMML LOT L.A. 392 sqm. Bo. Pagsawitan, Sta. Cruz Min. Bid Price: P 4,555,852
LDB_QC268 HOUSE & LOT L.A. 419 sqm. F.A. 738 sqm. (near Commonwealth Market) Jade St., Tiera Pura Tandang Sora Min. Bid Price: P 10,000,000	LDB_BAT037 RSDL LOT L.A. 2,910 sqm. Antipolo del Sur Min. Bid Price: P 3,362,730	LAGUNA Text 0920-8883473	LDB LGN193 COMML LOT L.A. 2700 / 2700 / 4909 sqm. Brgy. Lecheria, Calamba City Min. Bid Price: P 82,871,575
PARAÑAQUE Text 0920-9222495	LDB_BAT041 FARM LOT L.A. 16,000 sqm. (near Robinson) Brgy. Bolbok, Lipa City Min. Bid Price: P 4,482,240	LDB_LGN135 HOUSE & LOT L.A. 150 sqm. F.A. 120 sqm. Calaboso, Biñan Min. Bid Price: P 436,016	QUEZON PROVINCE Text 0920-9222495
LDB_PRQ260 HOUSE & LOT L.A. 180 sqm. F.A. 320 sqm. (near City Hall) San Antonio Valley, Sucat Min. Bid Price: P1,939,689	LDB_BAT049 RESIDENTIAL / AGRICULTURAL LOT L.A. 9,062 sqm. (near Robinson) Calamias, Lipa City Min. Bid Price: P 10,024,109	LDB_LGN145 HOUSE & LOT L.A. 97 sqm. F.A. 160 sqm. Biñan Min. Bid Price: P 599,382	LDB_QP228 RSDL LOT L.A. 5,261 sqm. (near Municipal Hall) Bulacan 11, Dolores Min. Bid Price: P 77,925
LDB_PRQ261 HOUSE & LOT L.A. 51/51 sqm. F.A. 60 sqm. Airport View (near Airport) Min. Bid Price: P 407,603	LDB_BAT070 HOUSE & LOT L.A. 249 sqm. F.A. 215 sqm. (near Robinson) Brgy. Sinagtala, Granja, Lipa City Min. Bid Price: P 1,600,000	LDB_LGN166 HOUSE & LOT L.A. 50 sqm. F.A. 50 sqm. Florence Vill, Subd., Sta. Rosa Min. Bid Price: P 399,899	LDB_QP247 HOUSE & LOT L.A. 86.50 sqm. F.A. 86.50 Sisa St., Lucena City (near City Hall) Min. Bid Price: P 1,225,599
		LDB_LGN183 HOUSE & LOT L.A. 300 sqm. F.A. 90 sqm. Brgy. Halang, Calamba City Min. Bid Price: P 1,284,642	LDB_QP249 RSDL LOT L.A. 375 sqm. (near Provincial Capitol) Cotta, Lucena City Min. Bid Price: P 1,977,788

SHOW MONEY IS P25,000 CASH OR MANAGERS CHECK PER PROPERTY, PAYABLE TO LUZON DEVELOPMENT BANK ONLY. ALL PROPERTIES FOR SALE IS ON "AS IS, WHERE IS" BASIS. PROPERTIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGES WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE. THE BANK RESERVES THE RIGHT AT ANYTIME TO PULL OUT, TO CORRECT ERRORS IN PRICES, TERMS, DETAILS & STATUS OF THE PROPERTIES IN THE EVENT DISCREPANCIES ARE DISCOVERED.

For more details, call **THE PROPERTY FORUM PHILS.** at:
Telephone Nos.: (02) 5349536 / (02) 5346954 Monday to Sunday, 7AM to 7PM, Cellphone No.: 0928-3771111

Taiwan-RP trade grew 5.8% to \$5.46B in first 9 months

By Ronnel W. Domingo

TRADE ACROSS THE LUZON STRAIT GREW by 5.8 percent to about \$5.46 billion in the three quarters ending in September as the Philippines and Taiwan push on with the development of a growth corridor that will link special economic zones.

According to Taiwan's Government Information Office, or GIO, the island economy brought in goods from the Philippines worth \$2.16 billion as of end-September.

This shows an improvement of 5.78 percent in orders from Taiwan, from about \$2.05 billion in the same period of 2005.

At the same time, Taiwan sent to the Philippines goods worth \$3.29 billion—an increase of 5.84 percent against figures for the comparative period last year.

In the January to September trading, Taiwan maintained a trade surplus of about \$1.13 billion, increasing by about 6 percent from \$1.06 billion.

GIO data further showed that the Philippines was warming up its place as Taiwan's 13th largest trading partner—where it has slid to since end-August—accounting for 1.77 percent of its total global trade valued at \$307.7 billion.

Among developing countries, the country has become Taiwan's fifth largest trade partner after Malaysia, Saudi Arabia, Thailand and Indonesia, which overtook the Philippines at 12th place.

The Philippines remained the 11th largest destination of Taiwanese exports, with about 2.1 percent of total outbound cargoes valued at some \$157.1 billion.

But the country's ranking as a source of Taiwan's imports slipped to 15th largest, accounting for about 1.44 percent of total inbound shipments worth some \$150.6 billion.

Manila and Taipei signed in December 2005 a memorandum of agreement to establish a growth corridor that links the Kaohsiung freeport area in southwestern Taiwan to the Subic and Clark special economic zones in northern Philippines.

In November, economists, investors and other experts pushed for a regime with freer cross-border movement of capital, goods, services and persons to help develop the corridor.

The experts also agreed that matching the two nations' industries, labor force and resources would be needed to address some obstacles and optimize benefits.

Barriers observed in the Philippines include the high costs of electricity and inter-island shipping, red-tape and "unofficial" expenses, weak legal protection of intellectual property rights, and the frequent intervention of the judiciary in business matters, as well as the slow pace of judicial decisions.

One area that the two governments need to pursue is the harmonization of customs procedures so that goods may be moved as freely and efficiently as possible.

The need for a quarantine protocol for certain products was also noted, with hopes that this would be set up over the next few months.

The establishment of Philippine regulations that allow greater cross-border movement of white-collar and blue-collar workers was also pushed to provide incentives for Taiwanese firms to invest more in the country.

With ethanol plant still in the works, biofuel firm now looking to expand

By Abigail L. Ho

FUTURE ETHANOL PRODUCER BIOFUELS 88 is now looking at expanding its operations, following its receipt of tax perks from the Board of Investments and the passage of the Biofuels bill.

In a statement issued over the weekend, BioFuels 88 is now considering expanding the capacity of its yet-to-be-constructed 60,000-liters-a-day ethanol plant in Mariveles, Bataan, according to its president Macky Lopez.

The project is entitled to an income tax holiday and duty-free importation of equipment.

Lopez said that should BioFuels 88 decide to retain the 60,000-liters-a-day capacity of the planned ethanol plant, the company's expansion could come in the form of "small-sized ethanol plants put up in selected areas around the country."

BioFuels 88 is eyeing Mindanao, Cebu, Cagayan and Batangas as prospective areas for the smaller ethanol plants, he said.

"We are looking at expansion in the form of getting more land for planting sugarcane or putting small plants in appropriate areas," Lopez said.

With the recent passage of the Biofuels bill, he said there was a need to plant more sugarcane to be able to meet the demand for ethanol feedstock.

He said this move would not only be good for the company, it would also spur economic development in the countryside, from which ethanol feedstock would come.

It would likewise help the government achieve its goal of having 60-percent energy self-sufficiency by 2010.

Under the Biofuels Act of 2006, gasoline should have at least a 5-percent ethanol blend within two years of the law's effectivity.

The mandated blend will rise to at least 10 percent after four years.

According to data from the Department of Energy, using a 1-percent biodiesel and a 5-percent bioethanol blend by next year will generate foreign exchange savings of around \$167 million a year.

In 2010, the mandated use of 10-percent bioethanol and 2-percent biodiesel blends will generate foreign exchange savings of some \$389 million a year.

Studies show that the country will need some 400 million liters of ethanol by 2010. This means that at least 20 ethanol plants must go on stream by then.

WITH IBM SERVERS,
**YOUR BUSINESS IS HEADED
ONLY ONE WAY.UP.**

xSeries 206m (8485iLS)

Intel® Pentium® D Processor 3.0GHz 800MHz FSB
2 x 2MB L2-Cache, optimized for EM64T
1 x 512MB PC2-4200 ECC DDR2-SDRAM
Integrated ServeRAID 8i; supports RAID 0, 1
1 x 160GB Simple-Swap SATA Hard Disk Drive
FREE 1 x 512MB PC2-4200 ECC DDR2-SDRAM

Php59,000.00

IBM System x3400 (797542A)

Dual-Core Intel® Xeon® Processor 5110 1.6GHz
1066MHz FSB, 4MB L2-Cache (Dual Capable)
1GB PC2-5300 ECC DDR2 Fully Buffered DIMMs
Integrated ServeRAID 8i; supports RAID 0, 1, 10
2 x 73GB 10K Hot-Swap SAS Hard Disk Drives

Php140,500.00

Also available:

IBM System x3400 (797552A)

Dual-Core Intel® Xeon® Processor 5120 1.86GHz
1066MHz FSB with 4MB L2 Cache (Dual Capable)

Php172,000.00

Buy an x3400 server bundle and get:
FREE IBM UPS1000T HV (21304TX)

IBM System x3500 (797742A)

Dual-Core Intel® Xeon® Processor 5110 1.6GHz
1066MHz FSB with 2x2MB L2 Cache (Dual Capable)
1GB PC2-5300 ECC DDR2 Fully Buffered DIMMs
Integrated ServeRAID 8i; supports RAID 0, 1, 5, 10
2 x 73GB 10K Hot-Swap SAS Hard Disk Drives

Php193,500.00

Also available:

IBM System x3500 (797752A)

Dual-Core Intel® Xeon® Processor 5120 1.86GHz
1066MHz FSB with 2x2MB L2 Cache (Dual Capable)

Php197,500.00

For more information about IBM servers, visit our website at www.ibm.com/philippines or call 1-800-4-A-IBM.

Promo runs until December 29, 2006. Book your order now!

Metro Manila: Advance Solutions, Inc. 526-3935, 524-7595 • Advance Microsystems 635-4181 to 88 • Infocore 890-4145 • SIM Computer 896-0170, 898-2870
Valuation Systems & Solutions Corp. 925-2177, 925-2223 • Virtuality Business Machines 727-7832, 726-8226
Provincial Area: Datalan (Butuan) 085 342-3165 • Emcor (Davao) 082 300-3161 • Enigma (Pampanga) 045 626-1406 • Thinking Tools (Cebu) 032 345-2227

For DFI NCR Permits # 5493 Series of 2006.

MANILA OFFICE:
Topy II Bldg., #3 Economia St., Libis,
Quezon City, M.M., Philippines 1100
• Trunkline: (632) 688-3333 / 439-7777
• DigiSales: (632) 688-3999
• DigiCare: (632) 688-3555
• Fax: (632) 688-3890 / 688-3892 / 688-3894

CEBU OFFICE:
#3 Rosita's Compound, Quano Ave.,
cor. Circumferential Road, New Mandaue
Reclamation Area, Mandaue City,
Philippines 6104
• Trunkline: (032) 345-9441 to 43
343-7845 to 46 / 421-9985
• Fax: (032) 345-9445

B10

People, Events & Products

Local pharma supports gov't to reduce drugs' prices

ONE OF THE FLAGSHIP PROGRAMS of the current administration is to make healthcare cost more affordable to the public, especially those who are living in and below the poverty line.

No less than the President assured the public that she would work to bring down the prices of medicines after learning that the cost of drugs in the Philippines is almost 200 percent higher than that in other countries. Efforts to provide health care to all already started with pharmacies of government hospitals selling affordable but effective medicines.

In support of the government's effort to lower down prices of healthcare, Therapharma Inc continues to introduce safe, effective and affordable medicines. The company has been known in the local medical com-

munity as the pace setter in introducing much needed bioequivalent and effective drugs at a much more affordable cost. Therapharma will be introducing a new brand of amlodipine which will be marketed at 50 percent less than the prevailing price of the originator brand.

Amlodipine is in a class of medications called calcium channel blockers. It lowers blood pressure by relaxing the blood vessels, hence, reducing peripheral resistance so the heart does not have to pump as hard. It also helps control chest pain by increasing the supply of blood to the heart.

Amlodipine is one of the most popularly prescribed drugs for hypertension. However, the cost of the originator brand is a problem to many hypertensive patients, especially those who

are minimum wage earners.

The new amlodipine will provide a smart choice for hypertensive patients which will help prolong lives. When made available to the market, hypertensive patients will have an effective and safe choice to manage their blood pressure. This will pave the way for improved treatment compliance among hypertensive patients which will eventually redound into better blood pressure management. In addition to this, hypertensive patients will also prevent costly complications brought about by uncontrolled blood pressure.

The introduction of this new brand of amlodipine is still part of Therapharma's pharmacoeconomics campaign which aims to provide safe, effective and affordable medicines to Filipino patients.

THE SALVATION ARMY LAUNCHES CHRISTMAS FUND DRIVE

The Salvation Army recently launched its annual Christmas Kettle fund drive at the SM City North Edsa Activity Center. This year's fund drive aims to raise P2 million to assist the less fortunate



through various social services such as emergency relief and rehabilitation, medical assistance, socio-economic programs, education, children's care and social reintegration. The Christmas Kettle is part of the TSA's year-long Red Shield Appeal which raised P1.6 million and served 15,968 beneficiaries last year. For the duration of the Yuletide season, members of TSA will be deployed in SM Supermalls in Metro Manila and key cities across the country asking for donations from shoppers. The Salvation Army is an international Christian church present in 112 countries which undertake programs on spiritual nurture and social service. It is also a registered charity under the Department of Social Welfare and Development. Shown are two volunteer 'kettlers' of the TSA. For inquiries, call the TSA public relations department at 536-3068 to 88, or e-mail PRDepartment@phl.salvationarmyphl.org.

YL Fishing embraces air blast freezing technology

FILIPINOS, BEING BIG FANS OF seafood, can be considered picky in terms of freshness and variety of fish they consume. With the advent of the cosmopolitan life wherein night shifts are popular and major household members are working long hours to keep pace with progress, less time is spent going to the traditional wet market to buy fresh food for the family. Popular nowadays are large scale supermarkets to serve the needs of these busy individuals. Consistent demand for freshness, however, still remains the concern of consumers. To address this need, technology keeps pace with the recent practice of blast freezing.

Fish are highly perishable commodities because of histamine, due to an acid present in protein which makes up the fish tissue. Histamine is the number one enemy of the fish processing industry. Studies show that such substances have caused certain allergic reaction to humans.

To prevent such developments, fish



and other marine products are iced and kept at a very low temperature prior to immediate processing. Studies show that treating fish and other marine products to extremely low temperatures through air blast freezing (-35 degrees C) prevents the development of histamine, extends the shelf life, and preserves its aesthetic value. This technology has been successfully used by industrialized countries such as Japan, Germany, United States, Korea, and China as well as in key cities of the country.

Air Blast Freezing is a process by which high-velocity air jets direct air on all areas of individual products, preventing the formation of large ice crystals that damages the tissues of the product. This

means that fish and other seafood have firmer texture and better appearance upon processing or consumption, not to mention the essential nutrients such as protein, minerals and other vitamins are better kept in blast frozen products.

This is the principle that YL Fishing Corp believes in, a company established in 1997 and became one of the leading fishing companies in western Mindanao. Through air blast freezing, consumers have better options on the type, forms, cut, parts and nutrition of fish and other marine products, regardless of its seasonality.

Soon, YL Fishing Corp will formally open its doors to the consuming public by offering an array of blast frozen fish and other marine delicacies such as big-eyed scads, bullet tuna, yellow fin, round eye scads, frigate tuna, thread fin beam, round herrings, skip jacks and more. YL Fishing products are packed individually in 500-gram vacuum sealed packs and is now available in all SM (Island freezer section) and other leading supermarkets.

PHILFOODEX

Philippine Food Processors & Exporters Organization, Inc.



PHILFOODEX AT 20; PHILIPPINE FOOD EXPO SLATED

The Philippine Food Processors and Exporters' Organization (Philfoodex), the country's biggest umbrella organization of local food processors and exporters, recently launched the Sixth Philippine Food Expo as part of its 20th anniversary celebration. Dubbed as the only all-Filipino consumer trade fair, the Philippine Food Expo will be held from Feb. 1 to 4 at the Megatrade Halls of the

SM Megamall. Shown are Philfoodex board members (from left) Roberto Amores, president; Edward David, chair; Januario Figueroa, director; lawyer Gloria Morte, executive director; Aida Garcia, treasurer; and Cesar Falcatan, director. Interested exhibitors can call event organizer Cut Unlimited at 687-3292, 687-0654, 687-0604 or e-mail cut@pdttdsl.net.

EQ DRY SALUTES TINTIN

EQ Dry Diapers is proud to congratulate Tintin Bersola-Babao for being awarded the Southeast Asian Foundation for Children's Television People's Choice Award as one of the most highly respected and wholesome personalities in television. This award has been given to Tintin for the third straight year and goes to show that Tintin Bersola-Babao is certainly successful in her advocacy for responsible media practice in the country. Being the EQ Dry Diapers product endorser with her baby Antonia, Tintin not only promotes her advocacies through product endorsements but also through other means in television as well. Many kids and kids-at-heart have benefited from her promotion of kid-friendly television, and EQ Dry supports this advocacy by bringing advertisements that emphasize responsible parenthood through mother-baby bonding.



NEW MENU AT TSOKO.NUT

Now you can enjoy your favorite ensaymada without worrying about your sugar level. Tsoko.Nut now offers sugar-free special ensaymada with queso de bola. Great with your tsokolate drink. Now also available at Tsoko.Nut SM Makati, Walther Mart-Makati and South Supermart-Alabang are Fruit & Nut Galore, Kabayan and Raisin Bread.



Whirlpool resets laundry seminar

WHIRLPOOL, THE WORLD'S LEADING name in high-quality home appliances, has rescheduled a seminar on managing a laundry business-part of efforts to help aspiring entrepreneurs set up their own business ventures.

The seminar, titled "Laundry Business Made Easy", originally set for December, has been rescheduled to Jan. 12 and 13 at Whirlpool's educational facility at 22 D. Tuazon Street, Quezon City.

The seminar initiated by Whirlpool aims to support and educate budding entrepreneurs who want to get into the highly profitable and dynamic laundry business.

Seminar participants are expected to learn the basics of the industry such as the usage of washing machine equipment, the application of appropriate cleaning detergents, methods of washing various types of fabric, and dry-cleaning processes. Resource persons and speakers will lecture on

the particulars of setting up a business in the country and financial considerations.

Participants who complete the seminar are entitled to the following special incentives and prizes: flat irons, laundry baskets, consultations, and signage support.

For more details about Whirlpool's "Laundry Business Made Easy", interested parties may get in touch with Lorena Pelayo or Pamela Garcia at 712-0535, 712-2830, 712-7073.

THE BIGGEST DANCE EVENT THIS SEASON!

SHALL WE DANCE Christmas with the



ClickTheCity.com

INQUIRER TV GUIDE
Monday, December 18, 2006



Channel	2:30PM	3:00PM	3:30PM	4:00PM	4:30PM	5:00PM	5:30PM	6:00PM	6:30PM	7:00PM	7:30PM	8:00PM	8:30PM	9:00PM	9:30PM	10:00PM	10:30PM	11:00PM	11:30PM
ABC 5	Nickelodeon	Kapamilya Cinema																	
ABS-CBN 2																			
AXN		Blue Streak																	
bTV	PBA TV	TV Shopping																	
Cartoon Network																			
Cinema One		To Mama With Love																	
Cinemax																			
CNN		Business International																	
Crime/Suspense		OS Crime/Case Files																	
Discovery Channel																			
Disney Channel	Mr. Bean: The Animated Series	Totally Spies	At the Movies	Mickey Mouse: The New Adventures	Li & Sitch	Cartoon Network	Cartoon Network	Cartoon Network	Cartoon Network	Cartoon Network	Cartoon Network	Cartoon Network	Cartoon Network	Cartoon Network	Cartoon Network	Cartoon Network	Cartoon Network	Cartoon Network	Cartoon Network
ESPN		Extreme Sports																	
ETC	Friends	Beauty and the Beast																	
ETC 2nd Avenue		Starting Over																	
Fox News		Baywatch																	
GMA 7	Makita Ka Lang	Now and Forever																	
Hallmark Channel																			
HBO	Mythic Warriors	Sunny Pig																	
Hero TV																			
IBC 13		EZ Shop																	
JackTV		Bohaterine																	
Lifestyle Network	Get Color	30 Minute Meals																	
MTV Philippines		MTV Hits																	
MYX		Rock MYX																	
National Geographic																			
NBN																			
Net 25	NC Chronicles	In Focus																	
Nickelodeon	Cartoon Network	The Fairly Odd Parents																	
PBO																			
QTV	Paumotop No. 8	Samurai X																	
RPN 9	TV Shopping	Buffy: The Vampire Slayer																	
SBN 21																			
Solar Sports																			
Star Movies																			
Star World																			
Studio 23																			
UnTV																			

TV SCHEDULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
NATIONAL CAPITAL JUDICIAL REGION
BRANCH 214
MANDALUYONG CITY

IN THE MATTER OF THE RECONSTITUTION
OF THE ORIGINAL TRANSFER CERTIFICATE
OF TITLE NO. 20711 IN THE REGISTRY OF
DEEDS OF MANDALUYONG CITY

ARLE REALTY & DEVELOPMENT CORP.,
Petitioner

VERSUS
THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE LAND
REGISTRATION AUTHORITY AND
THE REGISTER OF DEEDS OF
MANDALUYONG CITY,
Respondents

ORDER

This is a verified petition for the reconstitution of the original Transfer Certificate of Title No. 20711 filed by petitioner, Arle Realty & Development Corporation through its authorized representative Mr. Elton R. Jable, under whose name a parcel of land is registered, more particularly described to wit:

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF
TITLE NO. 20711

"A parcel of land (Lot 3-A of the subd. Plan Pcd-38505, being a portion of Lot 3, plan Pcd-3430, 34,300 Rec. Nos. 939, 975, 977, situated in the B.O. of Wack-Wack, M. Of Mandaluyong, Prov. of Rizal, Bounded on the NE. by Lot 1, plan Pcd-3430, on the SE. by Circumferential Road (Lot 5, Pcd-2330), and on the SW. and NW. by Lot 3-B of the subd. Plan. Beginning at a point marked 1 on plan benghi 46 deg. 48' E. 559.15 m. from B.L.M. 1, Wack-Wack, thence S. 17 deg. 30' W. 37.28 m. to point 2; thence N. 72 deg. 30' W. 67.00 m. to point 3; thence N. 17 deg. 30' E. 37.28 m. to point 4; thence S. 72 deg. 30' E. 67.00 m. to the point of beginning; containing an area of TWO THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED NINETY EIGHT (2,498) SQUARE METERS, more or less. All points referred to are indicated on the plan and on the ground, points 1 and 4 are marked by old P.L.S. cyl. conc. mns. 15x50 cm.; and points 2 and 3 by P.L.S. cyl. conc. mns. 15x50 cm.; bearings true; dec. 0 deg. 30' E. date of the original survey, April 8, 1925-Feb. 21, 1921 and that of the subd. survey, October 1, 1953.

The petitioner alleges in substance that petitioner is the registered owner of a parcel of land located at Wack-Wack, Mandaluyong City covered by TCT No. 20711. That on June 2, 2005, petitioner executed a deed assigning said parcel of land in favor of Jara Realty and Development Corporation in exchange for one hundred thousand (100,000) shares of stocks in said corporation. However, upon presentation of said deed to the Registry of Deeds of Mandaluyong City for registration on June 10, 2005, the petitioner was informed that the original Transfer Certificate of Title No. 20711 was lost and for such reason the petitioner seeks for the reconstitution of the original Transfer Certificate of Title No. 20711 pursuant to Republic Act No. 26, as amended by Republic Act 6732 in relation to Section 110 of Presidential Decree No. 1529. Petitioner's source for the reconstitution is the owner's duplicate copy thereof which is presently in its possession. In support of the petition, the petitioner submits the affidavit of Mr. Elton R. Jable, the General Manager of the petitioner.

ACCORDINGLY, the petition being sufficient in form and substance, let the hearing of this case be set on February 5, 2007 at 8:30 o'clock in the morning at the Regional Trial Court, Branch 214, O/J Hall of Justice, Mandaluyong City Hall, Mandaluyong City, at which date, time and place mentioned, all interested persons who may be affected thereby are hereby directed to appear and show cause, if any, or to file their opposition thereto as to why said petition should not be granted.

Let a copy of this Order be published at the petitioner's expense twice (2) in successive issues of the Official Gazette and at the Philippine Daily Inquirer, a newspaper of general circulation in the Philippines and the same be posted at three (3) conspicuous places, at Mandaluyong City Hall, the lobby of the court's sala and on the property itself, at least thirty (30) days prior to the date of hearing.

Finally, let a copy of this order together with the petition and its annexes be served upon the Register of Deeds of Mandaluyong City, the Land Registration Authority and the Bureau of Lands

SO ORDERED.

Mandaluyong City
September 20, 2006

(Sgd.) EDWIN D. SORONGON
Judge

(PDI - Dec. 11 & 18, 2006)

288 GUEVENTHOMES

OPEN HOUSE
DAILY

30% D/P
in easy installment
7% balance loan to owner
convertible to Pag-IBIG Housing Loan

P6,606/mo*

531-4121 * 534-9921 * 531-1384
(046) 417-3115 * (0920) 950-4626
(0920) RSGHOME * (0920) 911-0002 * www.guevent.com * hbi@guevent.com

* Pag-IBIG Housing Loan

ILOCOS NORTE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.
Suyo, Dingras, Ilocos Norte, PHILIPPINES 2913
Tel. No. (077) 784-75-46 & 47; 784-71-26 & Fax No. (077) 784-71-25

INVITATION FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION AND FOR BIDS

The Ilocos Norte Electric Cooperative, Inc. has applied for a loan from the Development Bank of the Philippines to finance the construction of its 69 KV power line and invites electrical contractors who are PCAB registered to supply for pre-qualification and to submit bids for the said project.

The project includes the furnishing of labor and materials for the construction of about 37 Kilometers of 69 KV line in the Province of Ilocos Norte.

Interested contractors and suppliers may obtain their pre-qualification forms and bid documents from the INEC main office starting January 09, 2007.

Pre-qualification documents must be received by this office not later than January 23, 2007. Only those pre-qualified shall be invited to bid for the project.

INEC reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any defect or informality, assume no obligation whatsoever of indemnity to the bidders any expense or loss that the bidder may incur in the preparations of its bid and to accept the bid most advantageous to INEC.

(Sgd.) ROMILLAS C. PASCUAL
General Manager
(PDI-Dec. 18, 19 & 20, 2006)

POEA 24-HR HOTLINES
722-1144 • 722-1155

"PROFESSIONAL & CREDIBLE"
PAWN*BUY*SELL

WATCHES
Jewelry & Diamonds
BEST APPRAISAL
Secondo Glorietta 1
Tel# 894-0282
Agencia de Makati
Tel# 889-7956

BUY*SELL*PAWN
WATCHES
JEWELRY
DIAMONDS
BEST OFFER
IN TOWN
8342886
8040484

ONE HOUR RELEASE
1% CAR LOAN
accepts 1992-2007
model
Pay-off Past Due w/ Bank
UNITED TREE LENDING
Q.C. 4112547 to 48
Pasig 6567685
Manda 5315577

Meno Gaia
The Leader in total home Care in Japan

WE ARE IN NEED OF:
(10) ENGLISH AS SECOND LANGUAGE TEACHER
Excellent in Oral and Written English
Knowledge in Japanese and Korean Language
is an advantage but not a requirement
Teaching Experience is an Advantage
Call Center and Broadcasting Experience a Plus
Must be willing to work on shifts

For inquiries or submission of resume, contact the following:
Able Advertising Agency
Unit 8 Bohol Mansion, # 43 Sgt Esquerro St., Quezon City
Phone: 413.66.25 / able.ad.agency@gmail.com
Or submit to security guard of Port Royal Building, Rada St., Makati City

**URGENT REQUIREMENTS FOR DECEMBER 2006
AND JANUARY 2007**

Our Principal **Marlow Navigation** is urgently needing the following positions for our modern Container vessels and bulk carriers:

• Master	from US\$5,115.-	6 mos. contract
• Chief Mate	from US\$3,795.-	8 mos. contract
• 2nd Mate	from US\$2,640.-	10 mos. contract
• Chief Engr.	from US\$4,950.-	6 mos. contract
• 2nd Engr.	from US\$3,795.-	8 mos. contract
• 3rd Engr.	from US\$2,640.-	10 mos. contract
• Electrician	from US\$3,019.-	10 mos. contract

Plus Seniority Bonus
Apply now and build your career with us:

Crewserve, Inc.
Rm 401 LBH Bldg.,
1431 LBH Bldg., A. Mabini St.,
Ermita, Manila
PIC: C/M Chito Mendoza
Tel. Nos. 400-9959; 524-6354/57/58 loc.124
e-mail: recruitment@crewserve.com.ph
POEA Lic. 250-SB-061604-R

Galant Maritime Services, Inc.
1101 Ermita Center Building
1350 Roxas Boulevard,
Ermita, Manila
PIC: C/M Norman Miranda
Tel. Nos. 525-0306; 5266888 loc. 115
e-mail: norman@galant.com.ph
POEA Lic. 108-SB-091603-R

Republika ng Pilipinas
Republic of the Philippines
Ragawaran ng Tanggulang Pambansa
Department of National Defense

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Department of National Defense/Armed Forces of the Philippines (DND/AFP) now invites Bids from manufacturers or integrators, distributors, or their duly authorized representatives for the Night Capable Attack Helicopter Acquisition Project with an Approved Budget for the Contract of ONE BILLION TWO HUNDRED THIRTEEN MILLION AND FORTY THOUSAND PESOS (PHP 1,213,040,000.00). Delivery of the GOODS is required within a period of one (1) year.

Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using non-discretionary pass/fail criteria as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations Part (IRR-A) of Republic Act 9184 (R.A. 9184). All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security in any form and corresponding amount allowed under RA 9184 and its IRR-A.

Interested Bidders may obtain further information from DND BAC Secretariat and inspect the Bidding Documents at Room 104-A, DND Building, Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo, Quezon City, Philippines (Tel: (+632) 911-8001 local 8414; Fax: (632) 421-3531; Email: bacsecretariat@dnd.gov.ph) from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday to Friday excluding holidays.

A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested Bidders from the address below and upon cash payment of a non-refundable fee of FIFTY THOUSAND PESOS (PHP 50,000.00).

The DND BAC will hold a Pre-Bid Conference open to all interested parties on 10:00 a.m. January 4, 2007. Bid opening shall be on 10:00 a.m., January 18, 2007. (Venue for Pre-Bid/Bid Opening: DND Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Camp Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo, Quezon City).

To facilitate eligibility checking, manufacturers and/or prospective bidders who wish to participate in the public bidding may apply for registration with the DND BAC, through the DND BAC Secretariat, at least fifteen (15) days prior to the scheduled submission and opening of bids for the project pursuant to DND BAC Cir 01-2005 dtd 12 May 2005.

The DND/AFP reserves the right to accept or reject any Bid, to annul the bidding process, and to reject all Bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder or Bidders.

(Sgd.) LTGEN. ANTONIO L. ROMERO II AFP
Vice-Chairman, DND BAC

(PDI - Dec. 18, 2006)

Cito and the lost 'bowling ball'

MEN TODAY HAVE BECOME more aware of their total appearance. They have finally realized that taking care of how they look and feel is not a bad thing. Personal appearance and health is important.

It is this awareness that is behind the conception of Institut Santre. As the country's first non-invasive slimming facility exclusively for men, Santre stresses the importance of health to men. Its unique combination of highly effective scientific methods using slimming equipment and Eastern massage techniques has given Santre a reputation that has turned its name into an inescapable buzz among those who have felt the need to not only look better, but lead better and healthier lives as well.

Fat loss and inch loss for men have never been more effective, nor more accessible.

Cito Beltran, like any well-respected journalist, hinges his discoveries on a natural instinct for news fueled by an insatiable curi-

osity of the different. With the tides of what was considered vanity changing, along with the rise of what has been called the "metropolitan man," he has found himself more and more intrigued with the concept of convenient fat and inch loss programs offered by Santre.

What finally pushed Cito through Institut Santre's doors was when he found out that it was exclusively for men.

"I am a curious person," says Cito, who at that time was a size XL leading a "too busy" lifestyle. "So when they talked to me about a holistic fat reduction clinic for men, I said 'okay, if it succeeds I'll do what they want me to do.'"

After a complimentary body analysis, which gave them an in-depth understanding of his body's condition and needs, Santre issued and customized its trademark Omnivital Therapy program for Cito. As well-trained professionals, the Santre staff took great care in identifying and addressing Cito's points of concern. These in-

cluded the removal of excess abdominal fat, double chins and the fatty pads behind the shoulder blades.

For Beltran, being in front of the camera every night was very unforgiving. "My weight and triple chin was getting obvious so I had to wear all these baggy shirts. Santre came at a time when I was nearing 50 and tired of being the same old me. They told me that with their treatment program, I can lose my triple chin and belly using their machines without fad dieting or going under the knife. Their treatment process sounded scientific and logical and that appealed to the skeptic in me."

Institut Santre's signature treatment program, the Omnivital Therapy System, is a three-pronged program that first improves your metabolism, breaks down stubborn fat and tones the body. "We focused on my main problem - I wanted to get rid of

my belly and triple chin only, since my arms and legs were fine. I was further constrained by the fact that I had spinal compression and lifting weights was out of the question. Also, I didn't like the haggard look that comes with most people who lose weight and that haggard look never appeared," Beltran adds.

Today, only a year after he first set foot in Santre, Beltran went from an XL size to medium and from a waist size of 40 inches to 36 inches. He has also lost and managed to keep 13 pounds off his 5'11" frame. "Now I know that 13 pounds might not sound like it's a lot, but imagine removing an equivalent of a bowling ball from your belly. That's big. My back felt better immediately and I started to sleep better."

To learn more about the treatments offered at Institut Santre, call 759-5599, or log on to www.institutsantre.com.

'Liga ng Barangay' waterstation financing

NEVER BUY BOTTLED WATER again. Not only is it expensive and too much of a hassle to be delivered in your condo, parish, clubhouse, factory, office or resort. With water being delivered, you can't be totally assured that it's really safe and clean. If your establishment consumes 25 to 100 five gallon containers a day, you're better off producing and purifying your own water.

The Electromex UHP500 high-volume water refilling station produces 3,000 gallons a day, or five gallons a minute. It safely passes the DOH and WHO quality standards. Instead of paying P5 to P10 per gallon of water delivered to you, the Electromex UHP500 produces it at only 30 centavos per gallon. Imagine the amount of money your company can save if you make your own low-cost, high-purity water.

Using state-of-the-art Ozon (triple oxygen) and ultraviolet system, it kills bacteria 300 times better than chlorine, removing all forms of e-coli, salmonella, and fecal bacteria that cause serious illnesses. The UHP500 is fully assembled with tanks, filters,



pumps, carbon, ultraviolet, and the heavy duty ozone germ killer. The UHP500 only requires 2 meters x 3 meters of space, compact enough to fit at the back of your garage basement or cafeteria.

The UHP500 costs P150,000, and a 'Liga ng Barangay' member 12-percent financing is now available. For more details, call 531-6782 or 535-9069, or log on to www.electromexinc.com.

Elaine Africa-Hernandez
(May 16, 1957 - Dec. 15, 2006)
Returned to our Lord Jesus in this season of love.

Her husband Bob Hernandez; children Ma. Corazon, Albert Benjamin, Francis Josemari and Katrina Elise thank the Lord for the gift of Elaine in their lives.

Her body lies at the Cosmo Funeral Home, Davao City. Interment will be on Dec. 20 at the Davao Memorial Park after the 8 a.m. Mass at the Assumption Church.

An obituary with a picture can be a fitting tribute to your departed loved one.

OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS:
1. Copy of Death Certificate
2. Any identification document (I.D.)

WE ACCEPT CREDIT CARDS
and bank-to-bank payments

Our Dearly Beloved
Atty. Roberto A. Unciano
of Balteastero, Cagayan and San Fernando, Pampanga.
Peacefully joined our Lord on December 14, 2006 at the age of 46.

His parents Fiscal Melencio Unciano and Veronica Unciano, brothers and sisters in-laws: Jun & Doris, Phillip & Olive, Veth, Pedring & Carina, Jojo & Melvie, Jojo & Leann, request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at Nacional Memorial Homes, G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City, from December 15, 2006 to December 20, 2006, and will be transferred to Good Shepherd Memorial Park, San Fernando, Pampanga on December 21, 2006 to December 23, 2006. Interment will be on December 23, 2006.

We design OBITUARIES for free.

MAGPURI "PURITO" JABSON

December 11, 1931 - December 16, 2006

His wife Julie; children Betchie & Mike, Luis (+), Liza & Beetle, Lynne, Lambert & Myra; grandchildren, relatives and friends request your prayers for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at Arlington East, The Garden Chapels, C. Raymundo Avenue cor. Mercedes Ave., San Miguel, Pasig City.

Interment will be on December 21, 2006 after the 1:00 p.m. Mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Concepcion Parish, Pasig City.

"Even when I walk through a dark valley, I feel no harm. For you are at my side, your rod and staff give me courage..."
Psalm 23:4

For your Classified and Obituary Ads please call:

897-8425

People, Events & Products

E-mail: pr_pdp@inquirer.com.ph
aespinosa@inquirer.com.ph

Editor Aries Espinosa

Samsung demos HSUPA tech at ITU Telecom World 2006

SAMSUNG ELECTRONICS CO LTD, A leading provider and innovator of telecommunication products, succeeded in demonstrating High-Speed Uplink Packet Access (HSUPA) systems and mobile phones at ITU Telecom World 2006. Taking place in Hong Kong from Dec. 4 to 8, the ITU Telecom World is one of the largest telecommunication trade shows. Samsung's success of first HSUPA live demonstration on the mobile phone in public enlightens this precious event even further.

HSUPA is the enhanced version of WCDMA, offering higher data communication speeds for uplink. With HSUPA networks, users can upload and receive photos, video clips, data files, and share contents more easily with their friends and family members.

Through HSUPA demonstration, Samsung could explore the next mobile broadband service era since the first HSDPA phone introduction

earlier this year.

At the demonstration, Samsung's network equipment and mobile phones reached speeds up to 2 Mbps for uplink and 3.6Mbps for downlink. The speed demonstrated is capable of handling large scale of data communications such as video streaming and ftp file transferring. Comparing with current WCDMA upload speed, the HSUPA demo is five times faster. For example, it takes one minute to upload five MP3 songs (assuming 3 megabytes per song) under HSUPA circumstance, while it took 5 minutes

to upload the five MP3 songs under WCDMA.

Samsung plans to introduce the first commercial HSUPA phone in Europe by 2007. Orange, one of the world leaders in the mobile industry, will be one of Samsung's earliest partners for HSUPA deployment.

Kitae Lee, president of Samsung Electronics' Telecommunication Network Business, stated: "I am very pleased to introduce Samsung's latest mobile technology at ITU Telecom World 2006 and even more pleased to announce the collaboration with Orange, our utmost client."

He added: "We hope to bring HSUPA technology as soon as possible to our consumers so that end users can enjoy the benefits of our latest technology."

Currently, Samsung is a major mobile phone provider for Orange with the latest mobile services including Unlicensed Mobile Access (UMA) and HSDPA.



THE PUKA SHELL KING'S STORY REVEALED

The book, 'Be Your Own Boss! The Puka King Story', was launched Dec. 7 at The Skyline Plaza, World Trade Center. The book tells the amazing and inspiring true story of a boy who started peddling the streets at 10; went around the country as a salesman in his teens; becoming the country's 'puka shell king', global entrepreneur, and today, a Tower builder. The book's main purpose and mission is to inspire and spark entrepreneurship—in the Filipinos here and abroad, particularly among the youth, the OFWs, and their dependents. It affirms that one could start his or her own business instead

of being a lifelong employee, and thus help transform the Philippines from being a land of migrant workers into a nation of energetic entrepreneurs. The author would like the youth, especially the OFWs and their dependents, to learn and profit from the lessons and experiences he obtained from the most effective and successful school in the world where he got his 'Ph.D.', the USBT—the University of Sweat, Blood and Tears. Author Hernando M. Vitas is shown with Inquirer board chair Marix R. Prieto, Alex Prieto and Lucita C. Vitas. For inquiries, call 524-4714, 525-9099, or 400-7748.

Meralco's 'Mr. Meterman's' right on the mark

GARBED IN A WHITE POLO AND A sleek pair of pants, the Meralco meter reader is like a guest who drops by your home unobtrusively every month. He is the friendly face of the electric company, reading the amount of the electricity you have consumed for a billing period so you will be charged fairly and honestly.

Before he is dispatched to your home, he has already undergone intensive training and seminars to make sure that he reports an accurate assessment of your meter. Of good moral character and a high school graduate, your meter reader is polite, honest and courteous.

Meralco has equipped your meter reader with proper tools that aid him in knowing precisely your electric consumption. Ever wonder what the curious box he carries around and presses as he reads your meter is? It's called the Rover 3000, a device used to encode meter readings and field findings. It makes sure that the data entered is complete and accurate and within the range of the customer's history of electric consumption.

In case your meter is inaccessible, installed on an elevated place, or located in a distant area, your meter reader uses a pair of binoculars that has a view ranging from 87M/1000M to 314M/1000M, powerful enough to see those small dials in your watt-hour meter. To ensure that the reading is correct, your meter reader sometimes brings a ladder and even basket trucks to read meters located in Elevated Metering Centers.

Precision device

In a nutshell, the watt-hour meter installed in your home is a precision device that measures the electricity consumption of your household. The meter is factory tested, re-tested and sealed by the Energy Regulatory Commission (ERC) for accuracy in registering electric consumption.

In line with its campaign to make its customers involved and proactive when it comes to the reading of their meter and consumption of their energy, Meralco has devised the Meralco Appliance Calculator, or simply MAC. Accessible through Meralco's web-

site www.meralco.com.ph, MAC is an interactive program that can help customers manage their electricity consumption by computing the operating cost of individual electrical appliances. Simply launch the Meralco Appliance Calculator by clicking on the icon. Choose an "appliance category" and select from the "type of appliance" from the list. Type in "your monthly bill" or an approximation thereof. Select the number of hours per day, days per week and weeks per month the appliance is used or will be used. Finally, click on "calculate" to see the estimated costs. Click on "try again" to clear results and start computing for other appliances all over.

Want to know how exactly your meter reader computes your electricity consumption? Why, the website offers a step-by-step procedure on how you can compute your own consumption. It also dishes a list of helpful tips on how you can conserve electricity so you, Meralco's dear consumer, will not be left in the dark.

For more information, log on to www.meralco.com.ph.

Peace of mind for the road

NOTHING BEATS THE FEELING OF KNOWING that your family is always safe, especially when they are traveling on the road.

The Mangahas family knows this all too well. Dad Joel and mom Margie relates that they used to be on pins and needles everytime their sons Martin and John were out driving. As parents, they could not help but worry about their children's safety. Joel and Margie could only hope and pray that the kids would arrive home safe and sound.

Things began to turn around for the better when the family availed itself of BPI Family Savings Bank's "Drive Your Dream" Auto Loan.

"We chose the 'Drive Your Dream' Auto Loan because it has the Emergency Car Care Package," Joel reveals. With the Emergency Car Care Package's roadside assistance service courtesy of Ibero Asistencia, the entire brood can have a sigh of relief. They are assured that their roadside needs will be well taken care of. Indeed, all worries of safety while driving is put to rest.

"Availing of the Emergency Car Care Package definitely eases us the burden of worrying. We are given to nerve-racking moments whenever Martin and John have yet to arrive home," Joel shares.

"Sometimes they stay out late due to school projects or gimmicks. In this day and age, anything can happen," Margie adds. "We can only heave a sigh of relief when our kids are already right in front of us, safe and sound."

On weekends, the family goes to where the action is. Usually, they find themselves in places like Batangas, where they indulge in a

day's worth of scuba-diving. Even on long trips, the Mangahas family gets to enjoy the journey more and therefore able to spend quality time together.

"We now travel with confidence because there's a company such as Ibero Asistencia that we can rely on and get us out of trouble," Joel explains.

The "Drive Your Dream" Auto Loan Emergency Car Care Package is a special feature offered to clients availing themselves of BPIFSB's auto loan service. Through this benefit, clients such as the Mangahas family who availed of the auto loan are automatically enrolled to the Roadside Assistance Service provided by Ibero Asistencia and may avail of vehicle or personal assistance in case of emergency on the road.

Vehicle assistance includes towing, minor on-site repairs, and vehicle rescue. Personal assistance such as hotel accommodation, alternate means of transportation, relay of urgent messages, information on hospital addresses and telephone numbers, arrangement for ambulance assistance, or hospital admission may also be provided to the member. What more could one ask for?

For the Mangahas family, it is all about being promised with safety and security at all times. BPI Family Savings Bank and Ibero Asistencia's Emergency Car Care Package makes sure these are delivered. Indeed, this provides peace of mind at its finest.

This free roadside assistance service is co-terminus with the loan term and coverage is limited to brand new cars only. For inquiries, call Ibero at 752-2274.



JOEL and Margie Mangahas relax at home, confident that their kids are safe on the road



PWU STUDENTS TAKE HOME ADVERTISING AWARDS

Participating advertising students of the Institute of Fine Arts and Design of the Philippines Women's University garnered the Overall Bronze Award for Globe and Inquirer silver award under the Tri-Media Campaign and the Excellence Award for Print Production in the recently concluded 1st Student Advertising Congress held at Aliw Theater in Manila. Shown are the senior students who were also cited as finalists for all categories in the ad campaign competition presenting their awards to PWU president Dr. Amelou B. Reyes (seated, center) and chancellor Dr. Dolores Lasan (seated right), with dean Rosario Bitanga,

herself an award-winning artist and assistant dean Reiner Suva. The winning teams were led by Carmen Encarnacion and Vince Salazar, with Ralph Rovie Eya, Francheska Reyes, Benedict Asal, Ma. Christine Onate, Joan Rodriguez, Ben Garcimo, Anton Bernardo and Angelika Rebong, as members. Some 24 universities fielded in their students to the competition whose works were judged by the Creative Guild of the Philippines, the results of which were audited by Sycip, Gorres and Velayo. It was presented by Philippine Daily Inquirer and Globe with the support of business corporations and media partners.

Parish marks centennial fiesta in 2008

THE OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL PARISH IN Barangay Pulong Buhangin, Sta. Maria, Bulacan will mark its centennial fiesta celebration Feb. 17, 2008. This early preparation for the milestone festivities has begun with the recent launching of centennial logo and theme "Pamanang Pananampalataya, Bayang Naglilingkod". The centennial logo depicts the image of the patron saint Nuestra Señora Del Carmen together with the infant Jesus forming the figure 100. A Centennial Fiesta Committee was also formed to spearhead the planning and implementation of programs and projects. Pondo Sentinayro was established to gather funds for church infrastructure projects. Parish priest Fr. Elmer Ignacio said that the fiesta is an opportunity for the people of Pulong Buhangin to rekindle the colorful history of the parish, emanating from being just a part of the Immaculate Conception Parish of Sta. Maria to where it is now. Also, there is much reason to celebrate the centennial fiesta in 2008 as the local community of Pulong Buhangin now reaps the fruits of remarkable progress and development in the area.

PHILAM PLANS HONORS QUIZ BEE WINNERS

Just recently, Philam Plans Inc (PPI), the leader in providing pension, education and life/memorial plans in the country, was a major sponsor of the recently concluded 27th National Quiz Bee (NOB) and presented the award to the winners of the general information category (college level). Shown is PPI president and CEO Jack I. Howell (3rd from left) together with category champion

Rae Emmanuel Echaveria (2nd from left) of the University of the Philippines in the Visayas and runner-up Rafael Kim Tiu of Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Muntinlupa during the finals and awards night at the Philam Life Theater. Also shown are PPI SAVP and OIC head, sales division Rico T. Bautista and PPI marketing officer Chickie Laurente.

PREMIUM LEATHER GIFTS FROM JOHNNIE WALKER

Johnnie Walker has launched two limited-edition gift ideas that are expected to be a hit among whisky aficionados—the Johnnie Walker Leather Collection. The holiday gift sets, which include a bottle of Johnnie Walker Black Label, are partnered with either an executive leather checkbook holder or an executive leather wallet. Both premium items are finely crafted and reflect Johnnie Walker's exquisite quality and unrivaled reputation. The Johnnie Walker gift sets are available in all leading supermarkets and wine shops nationwide. Shown is the Johnnie Walker Black Label Christmas gift set with executive leather checkbook holder.



DISCOVER SCIENCE WITH GLOBE AT MUSEO PAMBATA

Museo Pambata ng Maynila, the country's first interactive museum for children, recently opened the newest addition to its science room Tuklas! Sponsored by Globe Telecom, the Discover, Connect, Play section invites children to explore science through interactive exhibits

and activities. This partnership is in line with the leading telecom company's commitment to nurture the minds of young Filipinos. Shown is Museo Pambata president and CEO Dr. Nina Yuzon (standing) welcoming visiting pupils to the Globe's exhibit area.

Gold Quill Awards 2007 open for nominations

THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION of Business Communicators (IABC) Philippines is opening nominations to the Gold Quill Awards 2007! The Gold Quill Awards is IABC Philippines' way of honoring the achievements of Philippine-based professional communicators by recognizing excellence in communication.

Leading-edge, dynamic, and highly creative communication is acknowledged in this challenging program. A Gold Quill separates exemplary work from the merely well done. It recognizes the best practices and the highest level of achievement by communicators who demonstrate expert application of thought leadership, technical skills and sustainable solutions in their successful programs.

As an entrant, you will experience these awards as a learning, affirming and career-enhancing process, gaining the opportunity to have your work judged by industry peers and become part of a benchmarking process that is designed

to recognize technical expertise, strategic thinking, creativity, innovation, and measured results. Gold Quill Award winners gain the ultimate recognition from communication peers and a tremendous sense of personal fulfillment.

There are two categories and 19 divisions for the Gold Quill Awards. The Communication Management category, under which there are 11 divisions; and the Communication Skills category, under which there are 8 divisions.

The Communication Management category focuses on the communication aspects of programs and campaigns. They represent the full range of a communicator's planning and management skills: research, planning, strategy, implementation, measurement and evaluation. Entries in this category might include a combination of communication materials. Divisions under this category include Government Relations; Community Relations; Customer Relations; Investor/Shareholder Relations; Media Relations; Multi-Audience Communica-

tion; Marketing Communication; Issues Management; Employee/Member Communication; Strategic Management Process; Economic, Social and Environmental Development.

The second category is Communication Skills, the divisions under which include communication pieces that highlight technical skills and expertise, such as editing, writing, design and photography. They recognize the importance of a communication project's goals and measured results and emphasize the creative process of project execution. The divisions are: Audio-Visual; Publications; Publication Design; Special Project Design; Writing (Features and Editorials); Writing (Special Projects); Photography; and Electronic and Interactive Communication.

All entries must be received (not postmarked) by Jan. 15, 2007. For more information, you may contact the IABC Philippines Secretariat at 750-5667, 810-1631 ext. 123 or Telefax 751-3205, or email info@iabc.com.ph.



PAL, PTAA SIGN MOA

The Philippine Airlines (PAL) and the Philippine Travel Agencies Association (PTAA) recently signed a memorandum of agreement (MOA) establishing PAL as the official carrier of the 14th TravelTour Expo. The MOA also makes PAL a sponsor and exhibitor in the event. The 14th TravelTour Expo 2007 is the largest trade and consumer event of the travel industry. It will be held on Feb. 9, 10 and 11, 2007 at the Megatrade Halls of SM Mega-

mall in Mandaluyong City. In photo are, front row, from left, shaking hands: TravelTour Expo organizing committee chair Marciano Ragaza, PAL AVP-advertising and promotions Jess Garcia, PAL VP-marketing support Felix Cruz and PTAA president Jose Clemente III. Standing behind them, from left: PAL advertising and promotions officer Tere Manalili, the official mascot of the 14th TravelTour Expo Trippy and PTAA treasurer Lulu Velasco.

Why foreigners study English in the Philippines

OUR TOURISM DEPARTMENT PROUDLY SAYS that the Philippines has a lot of advantages as an alternative destination for foreigners who wish to study English. First, English is widely spoken here. In fact, 93.5 percent of Filipinos can speak and understand English well. English is used as the business language as well as the medium of instruction in our schools and universities. Second, the Philippines offers the same quality English education at a much affordable cost. And lastly, the Philippines is a nest of language centers being run by professionals and specialists.

Under the auspices of its founder and president Jose M. Mordeno, Jr., Speechpower has seen the potential of promoting the Philippines as an alternative destination for foreigners who intend to master English. For 35 years now, Speechpower is flooded by foreign nationals, all with the singular desire to hone their English proficiency. Speechpower conducts private tutorial and grouped sessions, using exclusively designed materials for foreign learners of English. The duration of the courses vary depending on the need and/or objective of the student or the group. Games, role playings, simulations, and other interactive activities are integrated in the program to provide the participants intensive opportunity and conducive venue for practical application of what they learned in the classroom.

From its original one course, Speechpower has successfully developed a curriculum pro-

gram with three major categories: proficiency in oral, written, and reading comprehension. Under each category, specialized programs have been designed with strict classification of participants depending on the level of needs from preschool up to professional levels. Foreign students may choose a wide selection of other personalized courses and prefer once or twice a week sessions, running for one and half to two months. Special arrangements on IELTS, TSE, TOEFL, and TOEIC review are also available.

To date, Speechpower is the only communication-training which has been tested and proven effective in a masteral thesis in language training and development by a graduate student from De La Salle University. In the international scene, it lays claim to the singular achievement of hosting an international convention in communication, the only communication-training center ever entrusted with such honor by the World Communication Association. Indeed, proving what our tourism department calls professionalism in language training.

Speechpower is strategically located at Speechpower-Joshua Building, 932 Aurora Boulevard, near corner 20th Avenue, Cubao, Quezon City (911-0832 to 34); 4/F Dona Amparo Building, Espana corner Tolentino Streets, Sampaloc, Manila (735-7256/735-7312/735-7262); and 2116 Buendia corner Taft Avenues, Pasay City (833-2921/833-2836).

IAME CONFERS DOCTORATE TO SENATOR ANGARA

The International Academy of Management and Economics (IAME) through its chair/CEO, Emmanuel 'Noli' Santos, hands over to Senator Edgardo Angara the plaque conferring doctor of philosophy, honoris causa, assisted by Melanie Marquez, BSBA cum laude during the 31st commencement exercises at Manila Hotel. Angara spoke on 'Global Education for International Peace and Prosperity' as commencement speaker and guest



of honor. For her valedictory address, the former Miss International spoke on '...its never to late to educate oneself.'



DODGE CANCER, WIN A WISH!

Dodgeball fever hits the metro! As Roof Productions, a group of junior organizational communication students of De La Salle University Manila, conducted a fundraising event, Dodge Cancer, Win a Wish, last Nov. 26, 9 to 5 p.m. at the San Beda College Alabang Covered Court at Alabang Hills Village, Muntinlupa. The one day affair was highlighted by the daring and creative costumes of each team. The Domino Diablos emerged as champions both in the dodgeball tournament and the best costume award donning a domino outfit, showed their teamwork throughout the

tournament. Each team enjoyed all the games they play in a single round robin, best of 5 set-up. It's a game where no experience is needed, where all ages and both genders can enjoy playing. Beyond all of this excitement is the thought of playing for the child cancer patients who deserve the happiness and love from everyone. This event, co-presented by the Philippine Daily Inquirer, was able to raise funds for the cancer patients of Make-A-Wish Foundation. The turnover ceremonies were held at De La Salle University-Manila, which was attended by the officers of the foundation.



EVI LAUNCHES OPTOMA

EVI Distribution Phils Inc recently launched Optoma 'World's No. 1 DLP Projector Expert' during the November Hi-Fi Show 2006 at the Captain's Bar of The Mandarin Oriental Hotel, Makati last Nov. 11. The Optoma Gala Event featured a fashion show of Optoma's latest array of products both for business and home theatre series. Shown are: Stanley Chaung

Jr., Asia regional manager, Optoma Corp; awarded with a 'Home Theater Series Dealer' plaque is Sonny Tuzon of The Home Theater, Irene Battaller, dealer coordinator, EVI Distribution Inc; DJ Wendell and DJ Pam, hosts of the event. For more information on their latest products and dealership opportunities, call at 897-7683 or 897-7693.



SMART FURNITURE OPENS LIBIS BRANCH

Smart Furniture 'Your One-Stop-Shop of Classic to Modern Imported Furniture in the Metropolis' recently opened its 2nd branch at Libis, Quezon City last Nov. 30. Smart Furniture takes pride of their collections with designs that ranges from classic, contemporary to modern imported furniture. Every furniture is guaranteed of

the finest material and the intricate craftsmanship. Present during the cutting of ribbon are (from left) Commissioner Norma Lozano of NAPC (National Anti-Poverty Commission), Rosellyn Enciso-Magsaysay and Cherry Sarmiento-Vallejo of UNTV and Christopher Chen, president of Smart Trading Corp.

Product FILES

Enjoy special Chinese dishes everyday

SUPER BOWL OF China and Big Buddha Restaurants make a variety of their favorite dishes available for everyday, individual dining through their Super Combo Meals. Super Bowl fanatics can now savor their bestsellers in single portions, anytime of the day, with or without an occasion to celebrate. And with extremely affordable prices of only P140 - P160, VAT inclusive, diners will have their tummies filled to satisfaction. Super Bowl's Super Combo Meals are available all day at all Super Bowl of China outlets. For authentic Chinese food delivered fresh and hot at your doorstep, call the Super Delivery Hotline at 737-8888.

Widescreen on the move

EXPERIENCE 16:9 WIDESCREEN ENTERTAINMENT on the move. Enjoy your favorite blockbuster movies in superior spectrum of sight and sound. The ZEN Vision W is in a league of its own with powerful multimedia features to support popular formats of movies, music, photos and includes FM radio. Available in both sleek 30GB and heavy-duty 60GB models, you will never run out of space for the moments you cherish. That's tens of thousands of photos, up to 240 hours of movies1, or even 15,000 songs2 all stored in your pocket. Tune in to the radio, or make personal voice memos. Take a closer look at the ZEN Vision W, and see how it lets you live your life your way. For more information please visit ZEN at www.axisglobal.com.



Philippines' international real estate event gaining global prominence

THE PHILIPPINES' PIONEERING international real estate event is gaining global prominence and drawing hordes of big-time participants from all over the world. Being organized by US-based event organizer Expo and Convention Promotion Inc (Ecpi), the 1st Annual Asian International Real Estate Expo and Conference (www.aireec.com) is virtually positioning the Philippines as Asia's top global second-home destination. Ecpi is making Aireec affordable to attendees and exhibitors to encourage wider participation. This was revealed by Mia Balbuena Acena, European division manager of the Switzerland office of the Barlin International Group, the proponent of Aireec slated at the Philippine International Convention Center and the

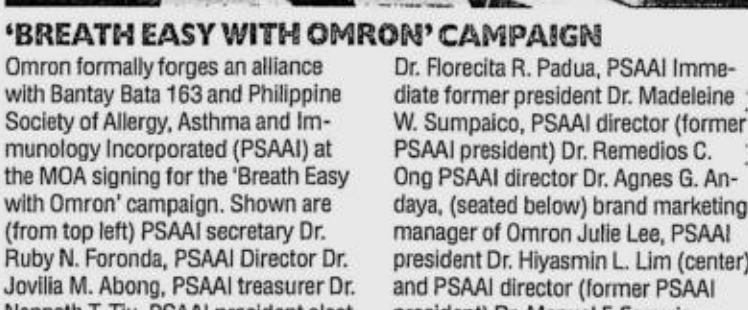
World Trade Center on Dec. 6 to 10 next year. "Due to the influx of reservations, Ecpi has also booked the World Trade Center to accommodate more exhibitors. Thus, local participants may be left out if they don't register early for this event," Acena added. "With the Asian economy booming, Aireec is a 'must-event' for the world's key decision makers, players and shakers of the global real estate industry," Acena pointed out. "Ecpi's superb and aggressive global marketing campaign for Aireec is showcasing Asia the way it has never been done before, and this historic international event will debut in the Philippines with all its glitter, glamour and grandeur." Acena added, citing the support of the departments of Foreign Affairs and of Tourism.



PCLHS BATCH '77 30TH ANNIVERSARY

The Philippine College of Commerce Lab High School Batch 1977 Alumni Association Inc, led by its president Zeny Yungco-Farcon poses for a photograph after a meeting held to finalize plans for the 30th Anniversary Celebration of Batch '77 dubbed as 'Trenta Na, Kwela Pa' to be held on March 24 to 25, 2007 at Tagaytay Haven, Tagaytay City. Shown are (seated) Charlie de Dios,

Edith Kayas, Lydia Lua, Lydia Marciano, Gene Tumang, Beth Endozo-Ocampo, Mercy Ampil, Zeny Farcon, Jesselyn Nicodemus, Roel Toribio; (standing) Lorelei Ira-Calliong, Chi Perez-Soriano, Rickyvel Castro, Alie Cabrera, Albino Velarde, Tootsie Durias, Edgar Pucio. For further inquiries, call 724-6596 or visit the alumni website <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/pclhs77>.



'BREATH EASY WITH OMRON' CAMPAIGN

Omron formally forges an alliance with Bantay Bata 163 and Philippine Society of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology Incorporated (PSAAI) at the MOA signing for the 'Breath Easy with Omron' campaign. Shown are (from top left) PSAAI secretary Dr. Ruby N. Foronda, PSAAI Director Dr. Jovilla M. Abong, PSAAI treasurer Dr. Nanneth T. Tiu, PSAAI president elect

Dr. Florencia R. Padua, PSAAI Immediate former president Dr. Madeleine W. Sumpaco, PSAAI director (former PSAAI president) Dr. Remedios C. Ong PSAAI director Dr. Agnes G. Andaya, (seated below) brand marketing manager of Omron Julie Lee, PSAAI president Dr. Hiyasmin L. Lim (center) and PSAAI director (former PSAAI president) Dr. Manuel F. Ferreria.

Deutsche Bank leads the Philippines offshore bonds market

DEUTSCHE BANK AG CURRENTLY LEADS the rankings in Philippines offshore bonds having completed its seventh offshore bond market deal this year.

Deutsche Bank has led National Power Corporation's (Napocor) return to the international capital markets helping the issuer raise USD500 million through a 10-year global bond offering. The transaction priced at par with a coupon of 6.875 percent, the lowest coupon ever for a Philippine dollar bond issue.

Enrico Cruz, Deutsche Bank AG Manila Branch's chief country officer, says the joint effort and cooperation between the three parties involved: Napocor, the Power Sector Assets and Liabilities Management (PSALM) and the De-

partment of Finance assisted significantly.

"The coordination and professionalism of all the parties involved, including the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas and the Department of Justice, was critical to the execution of this international offering," said Cruz.

This deal is the third Philippine international bond offering that Deutsche Bank has executed in the last three months.

In October, Deutsche Bank acted as the sole bookrunner for Land Bank of the Philippines' USD150 million Lower Tier 2 subordinated debt issue. In September, Deutsche led the Development Bank of the Philippines' (DBP) USD130 million Hybrid Tier 1 offering. This was the first international Reg S bond offering

to have ever been undertaken by DBP and the second Hybrid Tier 1 ever offered by a Philippine bank.

Martin Syquia, who heads Debt Capital Markets for Deutsche Bank in the Philippines, said "These three deals have capitalized on the favourable market for Philippine offshore bonds which has been brought about by general positive investor sentiment, improved economic fundamentals along with the excellent execution of recent ROP bond deals which have been characterized by strong demand, solid order books and tight pricing."

Deutsche Bank was also lead manager on the international offerings of the Republic of the Philippines in January and July this year.

BUSINESS

DTI readies perks for medical tourism



75% NG
PAGNANAKAW SA
TINDAHAN AY DI
NAPAPANSIN.

CAMERA 1 20:17:11 11/22/06

Gov't hopes to nurture new growth industry

By Ronnel W. Domingo

THE TRADE DEPARTMENT'S INVESTMENTS promotion agencies are readying tax perks and other incentives for medical tourism businesses in the hope of nurturing a new sunshine industry.

According to Board of Investments governor Francis Ferrer, the BOI was reviewing the Investment Priorities Plan to possibly include the retirement and medical tourism industry.

Ferrer said that if the sector was included in the yearly updated list of businesses qualified for incentives, companies may avail themselves of income tax holidays, duty-free importation of capital goods and the usual complement of fiscal and non-fiscal perks.

He said the board was supporting wellness centers and that it was studying how to tailor-fit incentives to the needs and situation of the retirement industry.

The official added that interested investors were already scouting for properties in areas like Laguna, Tagaytay and Leyte where land prices were still relatively low.

Proponents of at least six projects have "sent feelers" to the Department of Trade and Industry, expressing their interest to do business in the Philippines.

In a separate interview, Philippine Economic Zone Authority director general Lilia de Lima said the Peza board had approved a move to encourage the development of medical tourism zones.

The DTI had started as early as 2004 to push for the establishment of so-called medical zones when large-scale healthcare providers from Japan expressed interest in putting up hospitals and retirement facilities in the country.

One such firm was Tokushukai Medical Corp., whose plan was to put up a 1,000-bed facility worth some \$100 million.

Tokushukai is the operator of Japan's largest chain of hospitals, with 160 facilities including 47 hospitals. Each hospital has between 190 and 600 beds.

Another Japanese firm—Sanyo Emeritus Corp.—had looked at the possibility of building a retirement village in Tagaytay City.

Medical zones would enable patients from overseas—like those from Japan—to enjoy care and services like those back in their home countries at lower costs.

Gov't goes slow on Napocor debt program

By Michelle V. Remo

THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT HAS DECIDED to go slow on its earlier plan to absorb P300 billion more of the debt of state-owned National Power Corp. (Napocor).

Nieves Osorio, president of Power Sector Assets and Liabilities Management Corp. (PSALM), said the planned assumption of Napocor's debts would be subject to negotiations between the Department of Finance, which represents the national government, and her office.

"We (Napocor and PSALM) have to demonstrate first our debt and liability management program before the government absorbs the debt," Osorio said after the auction of Napocor's bonds last Friday at the Bureau of the Treasury.

Napocor raised P10 billion from the sale of peso-denominated bonds, thus completing its borrowing program for the year.

Osorio's statement came after National Treasurer Omar Cruz earlier said the planned absorption of Napocor's debts may not be part of the national government's budget program for next year.

Two years ago, the DOF announced that the government would absorb P500 billion more of Napocor's debt to help reform the country's power sector.

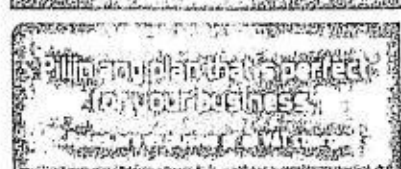
Removing debts from Napocor's books was expected to help generate interest among possible buyers of the power firm's assets.

The government had already absorbed P200 billion to comply with the provisions of the Electric Power Industry Reform Act.

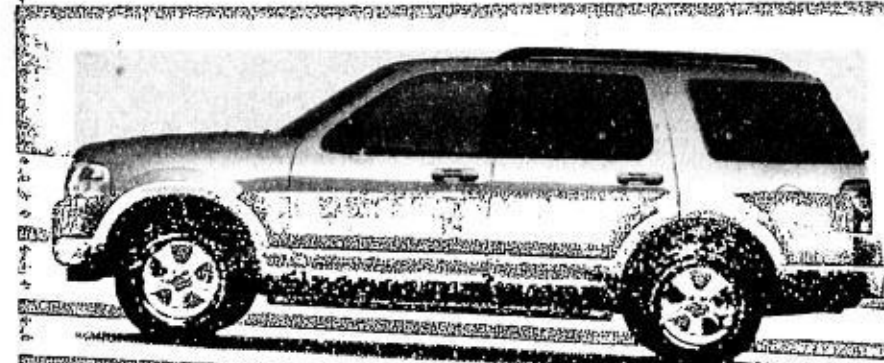
Kaya kumuha na ng FREE PC mula sa
PLDT myDSL Biz at kabitan ito ng webcam.

Mag-subscribe lang to a PLDT myDSL Biz plan and get a free Intel Pentium® PC with Intel dual-core technology. Pwede nyo itong kabitan ng webcam na mag-send a live video feed of you shop to your PC. Kaya ang pagbanyag ng shopat pwede nyo pang-gawin muna sa inyong bahay, baka kailangan pa man, via the internet. Din nyo na kailangan mag-alala kailangan ng libreng benta ng nyo, secure ang inyong pag-asenso. Call 171 or visit www.mypad.net for details.

Kasama mo sa pag-asenso, PLDT myDSL Biz
Early Offer, doo rin! December 31, 2006 lang!



Package	Explorer	Entrepreneur	Enterprise	Empire
Upgraded Speed (up to)	2 Mbps	2.2 Mbps	2.7 Mbps	3 Mbps
Monthly Fees	P3,000	P4,000	P8,000	P14,500
Free Products	Wireless router	One (1) PC	Two (2) PCs	1 PC and 1 Laptop



P140,000 OFF ON OUR LAST FEW
RED EXPLORER EDDIE BAUER 4X4 UNITS.
DON'T MISS OUT ON IT.



TOYOTA FINANCIAL SERVICES 858-8500
TOYOTA DEALER NETWORK: TOYOTA ALABANG, INC., 607-0707 TOYOTA DACOLOD CITY, (034) 444-1811 to 13 TOYOTA BAGUIO CITY, (074) 447-0851 / (074) 300-3273 to 74 / (074) 300-4128 / 3825 / (074) 443-6778 TOYOTA BALINTAWAK, INC., 366-8901 to 06 / 364-1547 to 50 /
364-4071 to 75 TOYOTA BALINTAWAK-NORTH, 927-7215 / 17 / 30 / 39 / 927-7242 / 44 / 48 / 52 / 927-7257 / 62 / 65 / 927-7268 / 69 TOYOTA BATANGAS CITY, INC., (043) 737-7386 / (043) 723-7639 TOYOTA BICUAN PARRAQUE, 777-9500 TOYOTA CABANATUAN CITY,
(044) 463-8481 to 87 TOYOTA CAGAYAN DE ORO, INC., (08822) 735-770 / 791 / 846 / (088) 858-9894 / (088) 858-7770 / (08822) 737-480 TOYOTA CEBU CITY, INC., (032) 253-1161 TOYOTA CIBUT-MANDAUE, (Q32) 345-8670 TOYOTA COMMONWEALTH,
(044) 267-1021 to 27 TOYOTA CUBAO, INC., 911-0651 to 63 TOYOTA DAPGUNGAN CITY, INC., (075) 517-2026 to 28 / (075) 522-6771 / 6734 / 4773 TOYOTA DASMARINHAS CAVITE, (046) 850-2036 / (046) 850-2929 TOYOTA DAVID CITY, INC., (082) 234-0998 / (082) 234-2994 /
(082) 234-8640 TOYOTA ILOILO CITY, INC., (033) 320-6115 to 19 TOYOTA MAKATI, INC., 697-3333 TOYOTA MANILA BAY CORP., 832-3408 to 10 / 832-3432 to 34 / 832-3384 / 832-3437 TOYOTA MARINKINA SERVICE STATION, 682-9701 to 03 TOYOTA OTIS, INC.,
564-1811 to 20 TOYOTA PASONG TAMO, INC., (893) 808-0874 TOYOTA QUEZON AVENUE, INC., 712-5001 to 06 TOYOTA SAN FERNANDO, (045) 961-1188 TOYOTA SHAW, INC., 532-4132 / 532-8428 / 534-3009 (telefax) TOYOTA SHAW-ORTIGAS, 671-9854 to 64 / 671-0460

Maybank

Ask not what your government can do for you ask instead what you can do for yourselves

THE POINT I WISH TO MAKE IS that the virtue of self-reliance seems to have disappeared from our vocabulary. We have become too dependent on outside help—earth-bound or otherwise—for our survival and deliverance. We very seldom draw on our own potential strengths and capabilities in order to excel and to succeed. Worse, we tend to blame everybody else but ourselves for our failures. This trait, I fear, has become deeply embedded in our national psyche.

Consider this excerpt from a recent news item from the business section of a local broadsheet:

"Industry leaders have asked the government to save the local steel industry from death that may come about as a result of government's apathy to the sec-

tor and failure to pursue the steel integration program called for under a 15-year-old law ... The death of the industry is being hastened by the government's rush to remove tariffs on imported steel products as part of its commitment under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade" (emphasis supplied).

These statements are quite revealing: Industry leaders are in effect saying that the impending death of the industry is largely the fault of the government. Surely, the explanation for their woes is not as simple as that. In any case, if the industry is already in its death throes, then perhaps it is no longer worth saving at all.

As leaders of the steel industry would have it, the reason that they are in dire straits is that the

MAPPING THE FUTURE

Niceto S.
Poblador

government didn't do its job. This, I think, is a lot of hogwash! These industrialists are acting like a bunch of college juniors blaming their tough professor for their failure to pass the Economics 101 mid-term exam. Perhaps they, too, should have done their homework!

Let's face it. For too long, Filipino business leaders have been resorting to what economists disdainfully refer to as "rent-seeking behavior" as their main strategy for survival. This strategy—if you

want to call it that—takes many forms. Seeking protection from outside competition is the most common. Cozying up with and currying favors from persons in authority (usually on some kind of quid-pro-quo basis) is another. All these boil down to gaining economic advantage for themselves at the expense of everybody else.

Consider some consequences should the government accede to the steel industry's plea for tariff protection:

- It will result in higher prices of steel products, and will increase the cost of an entire range of producer and consumer goods of which steel is an important input. It is a classic win-loss situation where the costs borne by many others far outweigh the gains realized by a favored few.

- By being heavily invested in such a capital-intensive industry as steel, the country will in effect be siphoning off resources from industries in which the country has comparative advantage. As a result, the country as a whole becomes less productive.

In any case, even were the industry to succeed in integrating its diverse and widely dispersed operation—a very unlikely prospect to say the least—they can never produce steel products at sufficiently large scales in order to operate economically and to compete effectively with producers elsewhere in the region.

It would seem to me that the best strategy for the industry at this time is to dis-invest from it! (I doubt very much, though, if Mr. Lakshmi Mittal would be interest-

ed in buying into the Philippine steel industry.)

The government will also be well-advised to desist from acceding to the pleas from various industry sectors for deliverance and instead provide assistance to sectors like education, healthcare and environmentally sustainable extractive industries—yes, even mining—in which the positive external effects on society are substantial.

One can think of a thousand ways that the government can lavish its scarce resources. Saving a dying industry certainly isn't one of them.

(The article reflects the personal opinion of the author. The author is a knowledge management consultant. Feedback at mapsec@globenet.com.ph)

Web-based stock mart trading thrives on innovation

AS ONLINE STOCK MARKET TRADING gains broader investor audiences, online brokerages need to constantly develop online features and functions to empower the retail investor. Created for the singular purpose of providing greater convenience to the self-directed investor, online innovation is now the new arena of focus for brokerages doing business on the Internet.

"It is our commitment to consistently upgrade and innovate our platform for improved functionalities and content," according to Dino Bate, president of CitiseOnline, an online stockbrokerage firm in the Philippines.

Educational campaign

The listed company is at the forefront of an educational campaign to widen the base of retail investors in the country. With the current 13.7 percent Internet penetration rate in the Philippines forecasted to increase annually by 23 percent, CitiseOnline hopes to woo more Filipinos to the stock market by providing an array of tools and investment information that enhance the online trading experience and make better-informed investment decisions.

Last September, for instance, the firm introduced two new order types that automatically place orders for the customer at crucial periods during the trading day. The Good-till-Cancelled (GTC) order type allows the CitiseOnline client to enter a buy or sell order that reposts itself daily for seven days until the order is fully matched, cancelled or expires.

The ATC (At-the-Close) feature allows online investors to place an order that will be sent to the PSE for execution during the market run-off period (12 noon to 12:10 p.m.) at the closing price of the day.

Previous to the ATC and the GTC, CitiseOnline launched the COL Trader, its proprietary all-in-one trading screen which makes it possible for the online investor to monitor—all from a single screen—live market information such as stock quotes and the ticker and the latest research reports, as well as executing or entering an order, and managing his/her accounts and portfolio. He now has the option of viewing the critical features of the trading platform in one screen without having to navigate through different pages of the site.

Convenience

The biggest convenience provided thus far by online brokerage firms to the investor has been the information that has leveled the playing field for all. CitiseOnline, for instance, presents daily summaries of relevant trading and investment events; their implications on particular issues; and best of all, recommendations to buy or sell selected shares.

Through CitiseOnline's Investment Guide, investors can sort through various financial data, comparing listed companies side by side to pick out better or more efficient companies.

Having selected specific companies, the investor can then proceed to have a closer look at a firm's fundamentals through the Company Snapshot or Company Reports link.

Retail investors familiar with selected stocks may also use the Six-pack Stock List or a general Watchlist to line up and survey several stock issues simultaneously through the trading day. Users may also call in a price ticker that rifles off active stocks so one can see the days' highlights blow by blow.

CitiseOnline also has seminars on "Investing Wisely in the Philippine Stock Market" and "How to trade online successfully" in its Pasig office every Tuesday and Thursday.

For questions, call 6-333-777.

From 20 December 2006, fly Singapore Airlines' brand new Boeing 777-300ER aircraft to Barcelona, an enchanting wonderland of art, architecture and fairy-tale excitement. Along the way, enjoy unprecedented levels of exclusivity, space and comfort that have been created to redefine travel in every class. The romance of travel lives on in one of the most modern fleets in the world. singaporeair.com



**SINGAPORE
AIRLINES**
A great way to fly

A STAR ALLIANCE MEMBER

MANILA			SINGAPORE			BARCELONA			BARCELONA			SINGAPORE			MANILA		
SQ75	Mon, Wed, Fri	DEPART 1820	ARRIVE 2150	SQ378	DEPART 2325	ARRIVE 0835+1	SQ377	Tue, Thu, Sat	DEPART 0955	ARRIVE 0745+1	SQ72	DEPART 0945	ARRIVE 1315				

+1 arrives the next day. SilkAir flights from Cebu and Davao connect conveniently with this new service. Above schedule subject to changes.

\$1-M movie to create Cebu film making industry

By Irene R. Sino Cruz
Inquirer Visayas

LAPU-LAPU CITY—THE SHOOTING OF A one-million-dollar feature film in Cebu would not only boost the local economy, it would also help create the film making industry here.

"We are growing Cebu's movie industry," Elliot Tong, producer of the movie Deep Gold, says.

Deep Gold is an action thriller about the missing \$10-million worth of Philippine gold when the plane carrying it crashes into the seas. It is the maiden offering of New Cebu Films, Bigfoot Entertainment's new film division.

Since the film making industry in Cebu is almost non-existent, Tong says the company has to create an entire human infrastructure from zero.

In Hong Kong or in Manila, Tong says a film producer only has to get in touch with a talent agent if there is a need for talents.

But in Cebu, he says, he and his support staff has to go to schools or distribute flyers to get people to apply.

"But the flipside is we have to explain what movie making is. We have to open the minds that when we make movies, we are creating jobs," Tong pointed out.

With the filming to be done entirely in Cebu, the New Cebu Films requires a lot of freelance staff for production planning, cameramen, drivers and many other functions.

Tong cites several benefits to Cebu with the decision of the New Cebu Films (NCF) to shoot it entirely in Cebu.

While a Filipino movie usually costs \$500,000, he estimates that the Deep Gold film would cost at least \$1 million.

"This is a moderate budget in the international scene but this is a very bold venture since it's the first time its done in Cebu," says Tong, an independent film producer.

Tong began his filmmaking career as a scriptwriter for Jackie Chan's First Strike and was the assistant to director Stanley Tong in the 1997 film Mr. Magoo.

According to Tong, about 70 percent of the

film's total budget goes to the local economy.

He also says having a movie shot entirely in Cebu would encourage foreign independent producers to consider the place for location shooting.

Actor Joel Torre and filmmakers Darwin Bolsico (1st assistant director), Marinette Lunsanta (production manager) and Lili Esquilon (art department coordinator) are among the Filipinos who will be joining the Deep Gold cast and crew.

The three will join technical director Ken Siu and stunt director Ailen Sit.

Siu's credits include associate technical director in Jet Li's Fearless and Rush Hour. On the other hand, Sit served as martial arts director for Shaolin Soccer and martial arts choreographer for several episodes of the TV series Martial Law.

Of the 26 Filipino crewmembers, 22 come from Manila, Tong says.

He adds that having all aspects of film production done in-house and in Cebu, as well, is a major move for a new film company.

Two separate teams would shoot different scenes, one for those with dialog and the other for purely action scenes, such as car chases.

Even before the NCF starts the film shoot, the company has already spent money to restore the old lighthouse, in the northern Liloan town, which is one of the sites for location shoots.

It is also spending between P2 million to P3 million to transform a place into what looks like a yacht club. And, since Deep Gold has a good number of underwater scenes, the company has built a special set of a giant water tank.

The filming of underwater scenes is scheduled in March next year. The NCF is set to produce four to six full-length feature films within the next two years.

The filming of Deep Gold is scheduled to wrap up in April 2007 while postproduction will follow immediately at the BFE's state-of-the-art facilities in Mactan.

Deep Gold, which is for international release, would be shot in both English and Mandarin.

Helping change the state of health care in rural areas

GRADUATING SUMMA CUM LAUDE at De La Salle University where he majored in Economics to spending a significant portion of his career in the fields of Investment Banking to insurance and pre-need, Mario Silos was paving a road towards a place of big opportunities for himself and others.

As president of IntelliCare, one of the country's Health Management Organizations (HMOs), Silos firmly believes that the capacity to grow and expand, be it as a person or an organization is directly proportional to the size of one's dreams.

Therefore, it was imperative that even from its very beginnings, IntelliCare was driven by big, hairy, audacious goals or what he likes to call, B.H.A.G.

What started for him as a dream to make medical care accessible to people at an affordable rate has become a loftier desire to change the state of health care in the country.

IntelliCare started as a company that wanted to make a difference.

"By the mere fact that an HMO exists and offers benefits or promises, it is already participating in that endeavor (to change the state of health care). But it is infinitely better if you are keenly aware of what you are doing because you are able to drive it forward, far beyond pure business considerations," Silos explains.

Needless to say, IntelliCare is keenly aware of what it is doing.

Since its inception 11 years ago, IntelliCare has taken strides to achieve dominance in an industry that is only over 25 years old.

Today, the company can account for a significant share of the total HMO clientele.

The desire to change the state of



SILOS

health care encompasses varied concerns such as making medical practice especially in the rural areas a more desirable prospect than it used to be.

"Brain drain is really prevalent in the provincial areas. Most of the doctors who practice there are hard-pressed with the income they earn and even compounded by the lack of the national budget to upgrade facilities of existing government hospitals and clinics," Silos says.

Given this scenario, IntelliCare seeks, when it enters the rural areas, to provide benefits to doctors and to offer service to patients similar to those given to their counterparts in the urban areas.

"When an HMO enters a certain area, it gathers membership among large groups. The HMO then channels this potential usage to potential servicing by hospitals and clinics in

the area. If the HMO brings these members there, then it creates volume. That volume created then allows doctors in those areas to have a minimum number of patients for them to make it worth their while to stay or earn a decent living and to contribute to the community," Silos explains.

Hospitals and clinics are eventually able to afford new equipment because they now have the necessary volume to recoup such investments.

In the absence of HMOs, volume is limited. Patients who cannot make outright cash payments to hospitals and clinics are discouraged to seek these institution's services.

Instead, they seek out alternatives or just settle for less than par medical advice.

Sometimes in certain hospitals and clinics, the government's investment in premium facilities needlessly deteriorate since there is not enough volume of patients who actually make use of them.

By using the concept of insurance, i.e. the law of large numbers, HMOs make premium health care available even to those who under normal circumstances cannot really afford it.

IntelliCare recently celebrated its 11th year. And Silos has emphasized the firm's vision: To be the leader in the HMO industry.

"One must not be afraid to embrace greatness or to aspire to something that is bigger than oneself. That greatness should of course not be borne out of conceit, rather an aspiration to wield positive influence and impact on as many people as possible," Silos affirms.

Farmer says ... From page B2-4

Grape farmers are hoping that the high cost of imported grapes will force local consumers to buy local produce.

A kilogram of imported grapes costs P200-P250, while the local fruits cost about P90 a kg.

Lomboy says they were hopeful that sales for the local fruit would peak as people are getting more health conscious and prefer newly harvested fruits.

"There are plenty of unused lands which can be planted to grapes, a high value crop," he says.

Hobby

Producing grapes started as a hobby for Lomboy. He visited vineyards in the United States to learn the industry and to develop a distinct grape technology suited to the country's environment.

Then he taught some town mates about the cultural practices of producing tropical grapes, until the grape fever caught other provinces in Ilocos and the usually idle hilly lands bloomed with grapevines.

The almost arid Ilocos lands are very suitable for planting grapes, Lomboy says, as grapevines thrive with very little water and plenty of sunlight.

"While most farmers dread the coming of El Niño, grape growers actually welcome the phenomenon," he says.

The variety most grown locally is the cardinal red and the Brazilian hybrid green, or the small green grapes that have been adapted to the Ilocos conditions.

Lomboy, however, says with the use of growth hormones, the little fruits can grow bigger like imported varieties.

He says grape growing could make one rich, even with only a hectare of land. But the industry is capital, labor and technology intensive.

One would need about P400,000 and seven workers to

start a hectare of grape farm. Expenses go to buying about 1,600 cuttings of grapevines and putting up the structures.

"The grape farms need close scientific supervision," Lomboy says.

But it's all worth the expenses and the attention.

After seven months, the vines will start to flower and produce bunches of fruits.

The cardinal red variety takes about 72 days to ripen while others take 90 to 110 days. In a year, a grape grower can harvest at least thrice, with a hectare producing about 10,000 kg., Lomboy says.

At the prevailing price of P90 a kg (for the cardinal red variety), a farmer could earn P900,000 per harvest during the dry season.

Rains would mean less fruits but in just the first harvest, if a farmer gets lucky, the initial investments would have been recovered, he says.

New varieties

Lomboy is also experimenting with other varieties like crimson seedless and red glove, noting that the "performance" of these varieties is "good."

These varieties cost more, from P150 to P200 a kg.

"Many grape farmers have grown rich. You can see it in the change of their lifestyles, their new houses, the good education of their children," Lomboy says.

He says a good thing about grapevines is that these can last 10 years, so a farmer would spend only for labor and farm inputs like fertilizers.

Grape growers do not use much pesticide because grapevines are not prone to pests, only to fungus during the rainy months.

Farmers also do not have a problem with marketing their produce as "the market, both traders and direct consumers, go to us."

"They know when the grapes are ripe and ready for harvest," he says.

work in the countryside. For highly subsidized state universities and colleges, it would not be unreasonable to mandate that their graduates serve in the countryside for three years to recover the government's investment in their education.

While the Philippine government is relishing the inflow of foreign exchange remittances from our doctors and nurses abroad, in the end it is still answerable to the Filipino people for the basic provision of health care, especially to the more disadvantaged and vulnerable sectors of our society.

REDEFINING AIR TRAVEL IN ALL CLASSES.

SINGAPORE AIRLINES' NEW BOEING 777-300ER



THE NEW FIRST CLASS

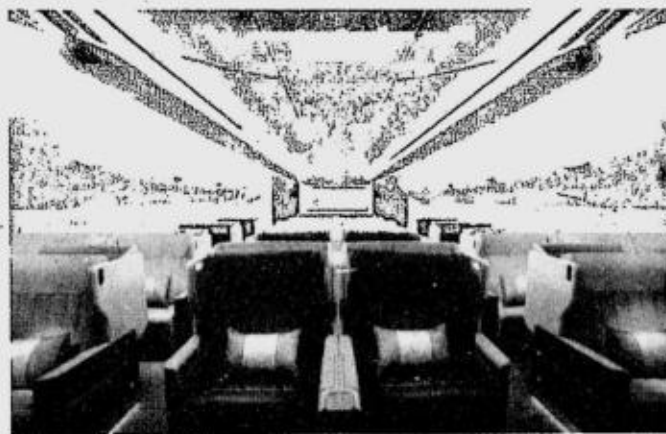
MORE EXCLUSIVE THAN YOU COULD EVER IMAGINE.

- Widest seat in the sky at 35 inches
- Largest fully flat bed with a dedicated sleeping surface for added comfort
- Vanity corner with a mirror and drawer makes freshening up a more personal experience
- Unique design allows maximum freedom to stretch out, lounge and relax in any position; enjoy the flexibility of working, reading and even dining in an exceptionally versatile bed
- Large 23 inch LCD screen brings entertainment to life

THE NEW BUSINESS CLASS

THE MOST SPACIOUS THE WORLD HAS EVER SEEN.

- Spacious 1-2-1 forward facing layout where all seats have direct access to the aisles
- The widest Business Class seat at 30 inches
- The largest fully flat bed features a dedicated sleeping surface for added comfort
- Unique design allows maximum freedom to stretch out, lounge and relax in any position; enjoy the flexibility of working, reading and even dining in an exceptionally versatile bed
- Large 15.4 inch LCD screen with a world of entertainment



THE NEW ECONOMY CLASS

MORE COMFORT THAN EVER.

- Increased knee room and legroom for enhanced comfort
- Large 10.6 inch screen with an endless stream of entertainment
- Adjustable reading light in every seat
- More features are present at each seat - coat hook, spectacle compartment and mirror
- In-seat laptop power supply to make working more convenient



THE NEW KRISWORLD

THE GREATEST SHOW IN THE SKY.

- Wide LCD screen in every seat, featuring the highest resolution in the sky: 1280 x 768 pixels
- Enjoy the latest Hollywood blockbusters, award-winning TV programmes, multiplayer and 3D games, including exciting titles from Nintendo
- Personal console with USB port lets you access built-in office software, to create documents, spreadsheets and presentations effortlessly
- Enhanced Graphical Interface that offers greater ease of use and user-friendly features.

Now flying from Singapore to Paris and Hong Kong. Soon to Milan, Barcelona, Zurich and other cities. Accompanied, as always, by the inflight service even other airlines talk about.

singaporeair.com

THE Romance of Travel LIVES ON

SINGAPORE AIRLINES
A great way to fly

A STARALLIANCE MEMBER

Who's healing ... From page B2-1

cal and nursing teachers for several years.

The migrating health professionals can be part of the agreement if a portion of their salaries is set aside to fund the partnership program.

If the medical tourism initiative were to be pursued vigorously, the Philippine government should earmark a sizeable amount from tourism taxes collected to create a special medical endowment fund.

This fund could be used to upgrade schools and hospitals, improve their standards and operating systems and incentivize doctors and nurses who are willing to

BUSINESSMonday

Farmer says grape farming can be lucrative

A hectare planted to the vine can earn some P900,000

By Yolanda Sotelo-Fuertes
Inquirer Northern Luzon

BAUANG, LA UNION—TRADE liberalization has almost pressed the life out of the grape industry in the Ilocos. But an agriculturist, who started planting grapes in the early 70s as a hobby, is trying to revive the industry.

"We're trying to expand again," Avelino Lomboy, 62, who pioneered grape production in this

town in 1972, says.

As of now, only 15 hectares are planted to grapevines in this town, down from the more than 500 hectares during the industry's peak in the late 80s or before the country opened its doors to trade liberalization.

The local markets were then flooded with imported grapes and Filipinos, enamored with anything imported, shunned the locally produced fruits, says Lomboy.

Local production slowed down in the 1990s.

Lomboy says former President Corason Aquino visited the vineyards of Bauang but when the farmers complained about the entry of imported grapes that was killing the local industry, "she could not offer any assurance to protect us."

Swept to the sides by the imported grapes, some grape growers decided to shift to "guapple"

(large guava), a produce that captivated the local folk's fancy.

Lomboy used to plant 25 hectares to grapes but only three hectares (two hectares in this town and one in Nueva Ecija) are planted with the fruit now.

"We were hit real hard by the trade liberalization," he says.

Fortunately, Lomboy says the Bauang local government is reviving the venture once more.

FARMER/B2-3

BILAO vendor sells her grapes at P120 per kilo at Baguio City public market



EVESPIRIT/INQUIRER NORTHERN LUZON BUREAU

Partnership of corporations

Corporate Securities Info

Raul Palabrica

WITH THE RECENT LIBERALIZATION of the rules on exploitation of our natural resources, several foreign companies have expressed interest in the country's untapped mine and oil deposits.

The usual approach taken in this kind of business venture is for the foreign party to tie-up or enter into partnership with a domestic company.

If handled properly, this arrangement can be mutually beneficial to the parties.

The foreign group takes care of the financing and technical aspects of the project, while the local counterpart attends to the required government approvals and other local concerns, especially, possible resistance from the residents of the affected areas.

This business arrangement is not, however, as easy as it may appear to be.

Under our laws, a corporation cannot, as a rule, enter into a contract of partnership with an individual or another corporation.

Public policy

The application of this restriction was raised before the Securities and Exchange Commission by a Dutch company that wanted to put up a branch in the country with the view to entering into partnership with a local corporation for the design, construction and operation of a power plant on a build-operate-transfer basis.

The Dutch company sought permission to register the proposed partnership with the SEC.

In its response, the SEC stated that the prohibition against partnership of corporations is "based on public policy, since in a partnership the corporation would be bound by the acts of the persons who are not its duly appointed and authorized agents and officers."

By way of background, in a partnership, the act of a partner on behalf of the partnership is generally considered binding on the other partners even if the latter did not expressly give their consent to that action.

In effect, the act of one partner is the act of all.

The partners have to answer for the consequences of their partner's act to the extent of their agreed involvement in the activities of the partnership.

The rule is different for corporations. The board of directors, not the individual stockholders, has the right to commit the corporation in its transactions with third parties.

The SEC explained that corporations cannot enter into a partnership arrangement because "the identity of the corporation is lost or merged with that of another and the direction of the affairs is placed in hands other those provided by the law for its creation."

Conditions

In the same breath, however, the SEC said the prohibition will not apply if certain conditions are met by the corporations that want to enter into a partnership.

First, the Articles of Incorporation of the corporations concerned should have a provision that expressly authorizes them to go into that kind of business arrangement.

In addition, the business proposed to be undertaken by the partnership should be consistent with or in line with the business authorized by the corporations' respective Articles of Incorporation.

It is also essential that the partnership agreement "provide that all the partners will manage the partnership, and consequently, the articles of partnership

must stipulate that all the partners are and shall be jointly and severally liable for all the obligations of the parties."

(In a joint and several liability arrangement, a creditor can, at his option, run after any or all of the members of the partnership for the payment of unpaid debts.)

In the case at hand, since one of the parties is a foreign corporation, it is obliged to get a license from the SEC to transact business in the country in accordance with the Corporation Code and the Foreign Investments Act.

If these conditions are met, the proposed partnership can be registered with the SEC and, in the process, acquire a legal personality separate and distinct from the two corporations that compose it.

(Feedback to: <rpalabrica@inquirer.com.ph>.)

*All we do
is all for you.*

*Merry Christmas
& Happy New Year*

*A special message of gratitude to all our beloved customers and partners
this season of peace, hope and love. Thank you for your continuing support.*

Happy holidays to you and your family from Your Bank of Choice.

Equitable PCI BANK
Your Bank of Choice

Contact our Call Center at 84-911 (Metro Manila)
PLDT 1-800-188-84-911 and Digitel 1-800-333-84-911 (Provincial)
or visit www.equitablepcb.com

Member of the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation
Maximum Deposit Insurance for Each Depositor P250,000

PLUS MEGA Link

Editor Chelo Banal-Formoso

Subsection Editor Lito B. Zulueta

LIFESTYLE

sms feedback: inquirer life name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) and 386 (Smart)

MONDAY ARTS & BOOKS • TUESDAY FITNESS • WEDNESDAY 2BU • THURSDAY CITY

EDUARDO CASTRILLO
Monumental at 40

The sculptor continues to dominate the Philippine art scene with monuments great and small

By Lito B. Zulueta

IT HAS BEEN A YEAR OF artistic milestones.

A series of retrospectives is being held to mark the 80th birthday of National Artist Arturo Luz. Juvenal Sano has marked his 55th year as an artist with an important show surveying his remarkable print career. And sculptor Ramon Orlina has just celebrated his 30th year as an artist with a sold-out show of brilliant glass pieces.

But perhaps, together with Luz's, the most elaborate program being held to commemorate a key milestone is that of Eduardo Castrillo's. The sculptor-designer is marking his 40th year as an artist, and it is to his credit as well as that of his handlers that he has organized a well-planned series of shows that chronicle his achievements while pointing new directions to his highly varied and extremely rich artistic horizon.

The shows are informative and educational, and they could not be otherwise. Both the old and the young have to reacquaint themselves with Castrillo and his spectacular career.

Because he has been on the scene for four decades now, it's quite easy to overlook the fact that Castrillo has been the most dominant Filipino sculptor in the last quarter of the 20th century, and certainly one of the few Asian sculptors with a worldwide reputation.

That reputation rests on a body of work that is overwhelmingly vast as it is dizzyingly prodigious. Castrillo has done public and private monuments, on secular or religious topics, on patriotic or martyrological themes.

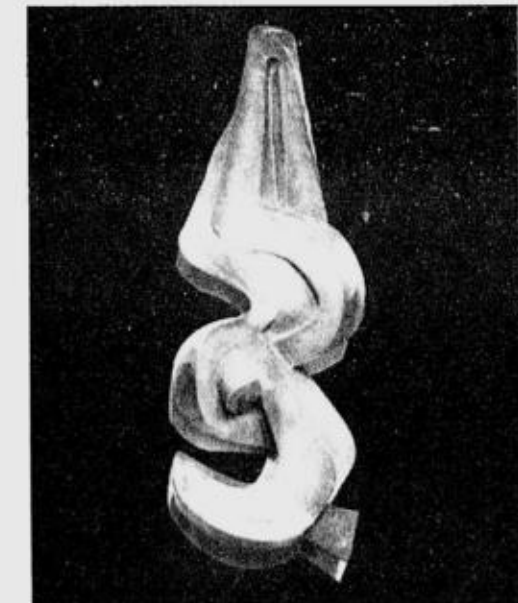
He has run the gamut of figurative and abstract genres, in some instances combining the two in what seems a sculptural collage that audaciously melds clashing artistic forms.

He has done small sculptural works, free-standing sculptures that are conversation pieces in home décor or office interiors. He has even done steel sculptural vases that provide a metallic counterpoint to the fragility of flowers, a strange visual alchemy, if there was one.

And lest anyone forget, Castrillo is a highly original jewelry designer. In fact, he first made waves on the art scene as a designer for Estrella del Norte, when he was still a student at the University of Santo Tomas.

The fact that he is equally at home in

MONUMENTAL/C2



ONE of Castrillo's movables in brass



BRASS piece with sanded finish



FREESTANDING sculpture (left) and abstract piece



It's your ticket to free movies
when you use Citibank PayLite at Anson's.



Let Citibank PayLite treat you to a free movie date! Every time you PayLite at least P5,000 at Anson's, you get 2 movie tickets - FREE! Hurry, promo period is from October 1 to December 31, 2006.

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 3586, Series of 2006

What's more, every P1,000 PayLite purchase at Anson's earns you 2 raffle entries in Citibank's TAKE TEN promotion for a chance to win ALL 10 great prizes, including a New Generation Mercedes-Benz E-Class!

See print ad and flyer for details.

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 3770, Series of 2006

Anson's

Visit the

Appliance Installment Showdown
Activity Center, Alabang Town Center
December 8 to 22, 2006

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 4343, Series of 2006



0% Interest is available on wide selections of appliances and gadgets for 3, 6, 9, 12, 18 and 24 months.

citibank

Monumental at 40

From page C1

both micro and macro designs, in both diminutive and colossal works—and breathtakingly so—should affirm and reaffirm his multidexterous genius.

Giant

In 1978, when Castrillo was barely 12 years into the art scene, the critic Leo Bena said Castrillo was doing "the giant's work": "At 35 years of age, Eduardo Castrillo is the most restless creative practitioner of the art of sculpture at the moment. He is the most versatile in any case and the most productive if his works and activities during the last few years are valid indicators—which they are."

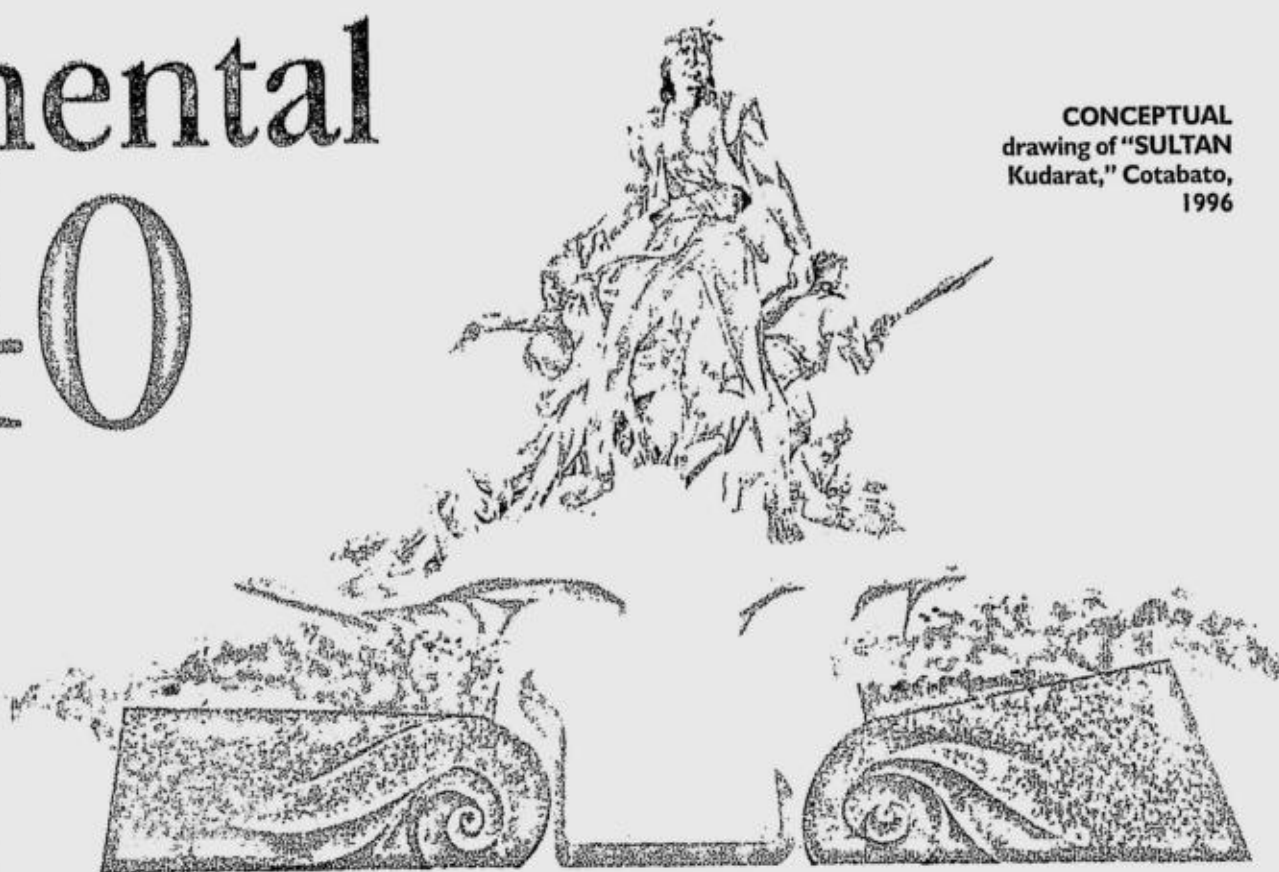
Since then, the restless fire has not abated. Fresh from erecting "Pillar of Growth," the seven-story abstract sculpture at the Metrobank Plaza at that time, Castrillo has erected one monument after another.

Perhaps the most notable and visible are the José Rizal bio in light and sound at the Luneta; the San Lorenzo Ruiz monument in Binondo; the Katipunan showcase beside the Manila City Hall; the People Power monument at Edsa; "The Spirit of Edsa" at RCBC Plaza; and "The Heritage of Cebu."

The series of Castrillo exhibits should be particularly instructive and informative since the public may have failed to keep abreast of developments on Castrillo's prolific art-making.

While many of Castrillo's sculptures may be familiar to Metro Manilans, he has also done works across the nation and even abroad. The exhibits should be a survey of his more recent works.

The exhibits at the UST Museum of Arts



CONCEPTUAL drawing of "SULTAN Kudarat," Cotabato, 1996



DRAWING for "Gen. Artemio Ricarte Monument"



DRAWING for "Pedro Calangud"



STUDY for "Heritage of Cebu Monument"

and Sciences ("Castrillo at 40: Conceptualizing Symbols of Heritage and Faith") and the CCP ("From the Drawing Board") showed drawings and photographs of the more recent works of the artist. The conceptual drawings gave insight into the creative gestation of the works.

In "Facets of Style, Medium and Form" (until Dec. 20 at Yuchengco Museum, RCBC Plaza), Castrillo shows his art jewelry, hammer-out reliefs, plexiglass and chromo abstractions, abstract pieces in the round, art jewelry, and body sculptures. It is perhaps the most complete show of the series.

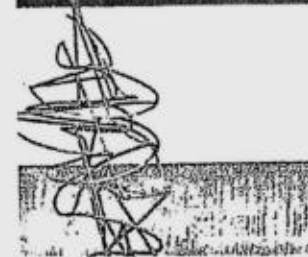
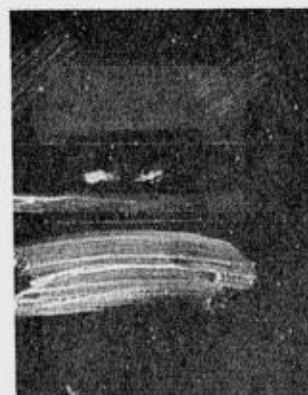
More interesting perhaps to collectors is "New Works" at Choice Expressions Gallery (2/F, Doña Consolacion Bldg., Jupiter St., Bel-Air, Makati; tel. 8990717 or 8990718). It's a selling exhibit of new works, such as free-standing and hanging sculptures as well as bas-reliefs.

Made of brass iron and black iron, sometimes with a patina of color (green or antique oftentimes), coated with plexiglass, or with sanded-gold finish, the works are really variations of his Movable Planes and Shapes collection, or his Spatial Planes and Shapes collection.

Although the original collections are easily seen as adventures in geometric abstractions, the new works are really explorations of space and movement. In doing them, Castrillo has distilled the narrative forms of his public monuments into the purest music, the realism filtered into the purest of forms: The story becomes a suggestion, the drama into sheer music.

But the poetry doesn't thin out into indistinguishable ether. As always with Castrillo, the volume and the massiveness remain. The contortions perform the movement, and the plangent metal seems to fill up the space. Castrillo's are sculptures that throb, breathe.

That massive throbbing should continue for the years to come. The restless art of Eduardo Castrillo would ensure that.



EDUARDO Castrillo, the artist; drawing (below) for "Binhi ng Bayani"



*Make it happen
this Christmas!*

A Special Gift for family members, friends and you!
PERSONALITY AND EXECUTIVE DEVELOPMENT.
GROOMING, MODELING, ACTING.

The gift that lasts for a lifetime.

ENROLL NOW at any level and get the NEXT LEVEL FREE!
Choose to start classes anytime before February 28, 2007.

Enrollment must be before December 29, 2006.

MAKE IT HAPPEN NOW! CALL TODAY FOR DETAILS.

892 9511 or 927 0465

(Makati City)

(Quezon City)

John Robert Powers

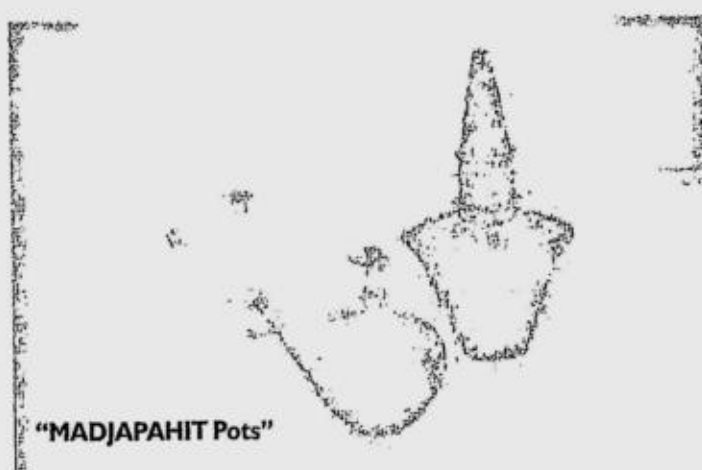
www.johnrobertpowers.com

Casmer Building, 195 Salcedo St.,
Legaspi Village, Makati City
Guarded parking nearby

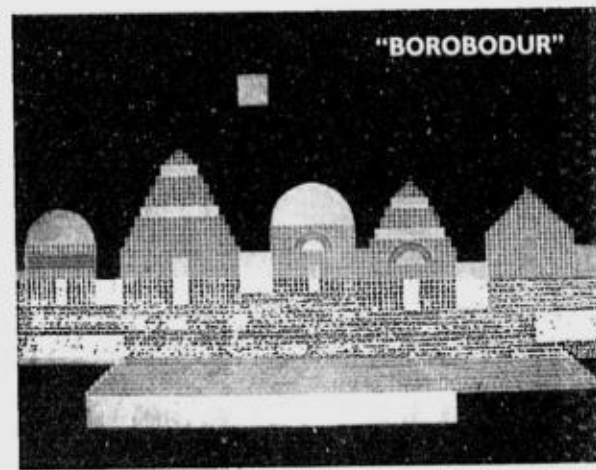
Ground Floor, Cinderella Building
825 EDSA, Quezon City
Parking on premises

OFFER EXTENDED. SAVE UP TO P30,000!

Estimated approved by DTI-MCR. SEE FLYERS FOR DETAILS. For DTI-MCR Permit No. 4222. Series of 2006.



"MADJAPAHIT Pots"



"BOROBODUR"



"DUO on Wheels Performing"

Tributes to Arturo Luz

GALERIE FRANCESCA IS HOLDING "CARNIVALS, TEMPLES and Performers," a show of works of National Artist Arturo Luz since 1991.

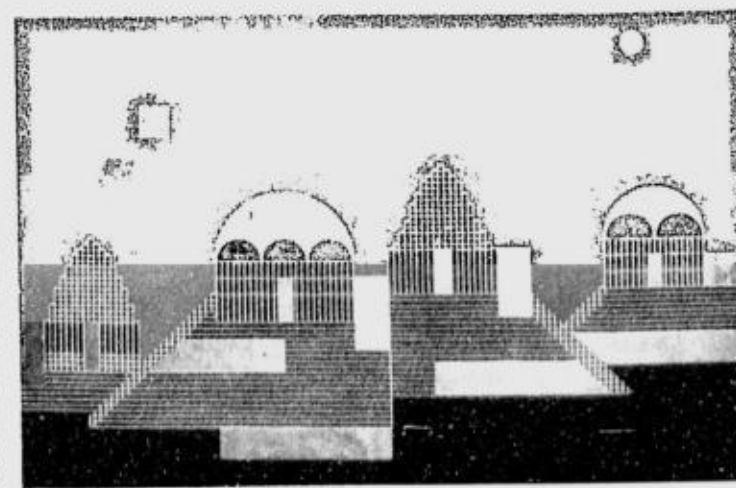
The show features medium-size paintings and works on paper.

To celebrate Luz's 80th year, the National Commission for Culture and the Arts, National Museum, Metropolitan Museum, Design Center of the Philippines, Cultural Center of the Philippines, Ayala Museum and Ateneo Art Gallery are holding tribute celebrations, ranging from retrospectives of paintings, prints and sculptures, to exhibits on the life of Luz, including interpretations of his works in song, dance and music.

Galerie Francesca is at Unit 2B-3B, 3/L, Treasure Trove, Festival Supermall, Alabang, Muntinlupa City. Call 8098495.



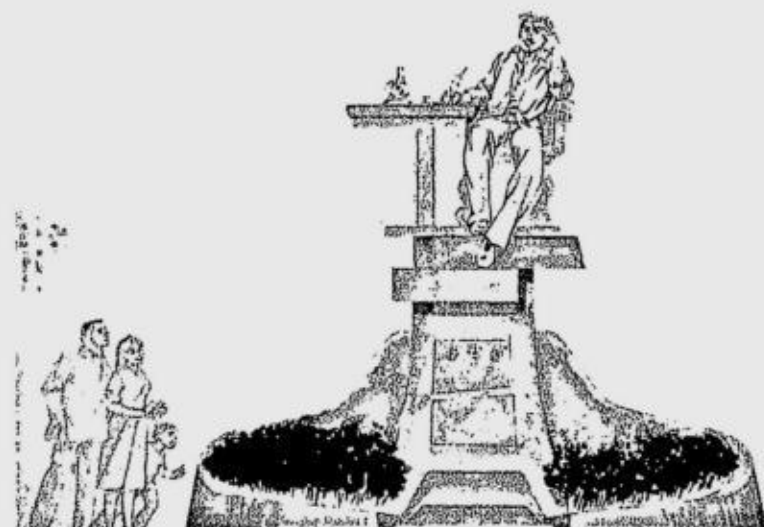
"GREY Juggler" 2



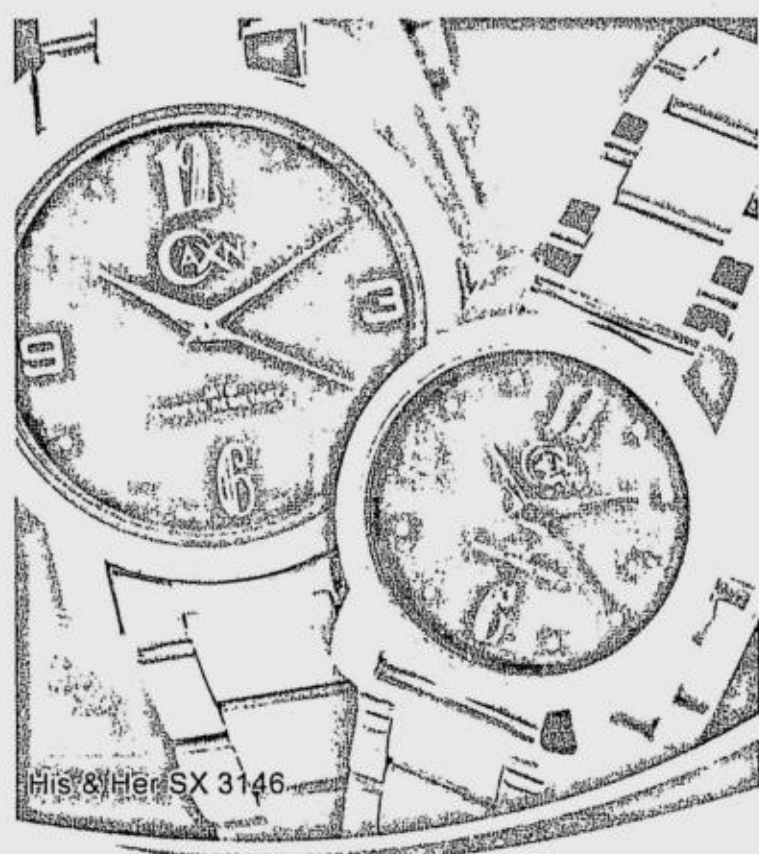
"CITIES of the Past" (left) and "Golden Temples"



ABSTRACT piece at Choice Expression Gallery



DRAWING for "Rizal the Intellectual," Calamba, 1999



active lifestyle



AVAILABLE AT S&W DEPT. STORES

BOOK YOUR FLIGHTS NOW AND SAVE.

Juan Dela Cruz
Human Resources Officer
TECHNIQUES Technologies
34/F Philam Tower Ayala Ave.
Makati 1226
Philippines

AIRMAIL



Enjoy lower rates by booking your company's 2007 outing now!

Enchanted Kingdom's Magical Gatherings package includes a 1-hour live entertainment show, an exclusive group area and a welcome banner for a group of at least 100 persons. What's more is you get your own EK Events Team to oversee all the teambuilding activities we have in store for your entire company. Now that's how you take a break from work.

Call our Corporate Sales Executives at 812-7291 or email us at keyaccounts@enchantedkingdom.com.ph and book your outing today!

Park Address: San Lorenzo South, City of Santa Rosa, Laguna • 843-60-74 to 78 • Makati Sales Office: Ground Floor, The Billmore Condominium, 102 Aguirre St., Legaspi Vill., Makati City • 830-21-11 to 16



The magic stays with you



www.enchantedkingdom.com.ph



tastic holidays.

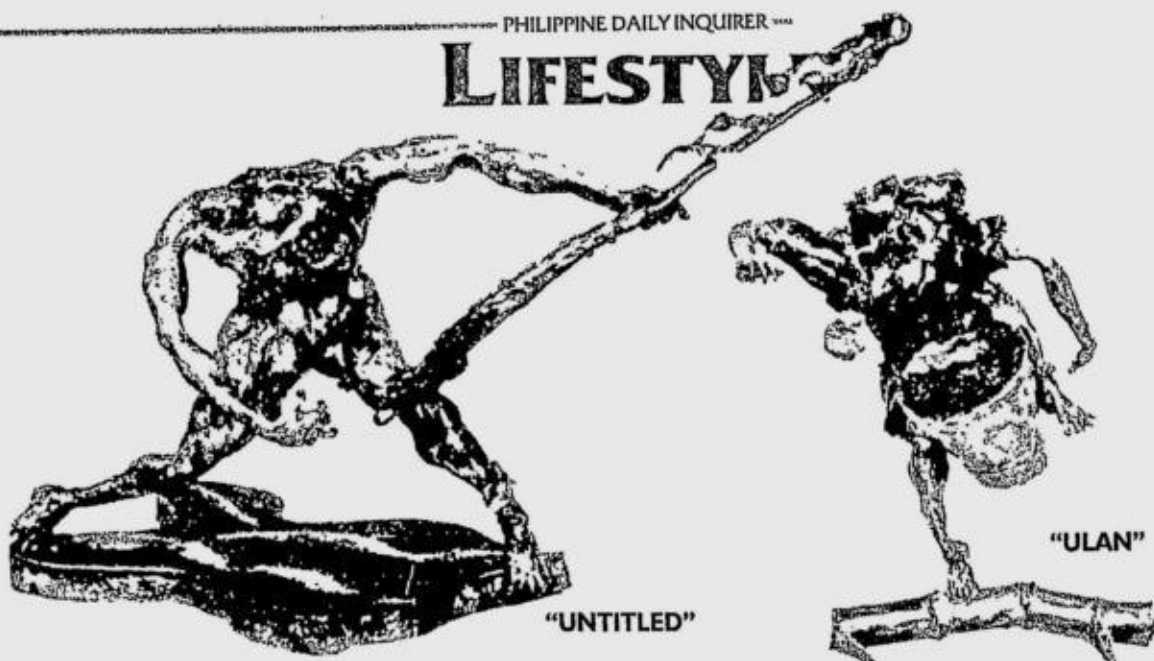
Holiday season rates from 4,000

Celebrate the holidays with peace and happiness at Mandarin Oriental, Manila and avail of the season's special room packages for Philippine residents, starting at P4,000. Inclusive of breakfast for single or twin occupancy. Also partake of the season's delightful culinary offerings for a merry holiday respite. For enquiries and reservations, call 750 8888.





"ANI"



"UNTITLED"

"ULAN"



"HILING"

Ortega's childhood sculptures

By Jessica Jalandoni-Robillos

SCUPTOR CARLITO ORTEGA, who used to be an electrical engineer and businessman, showed his first works at the Bistro Salud in Baguio City.

Since then, he has been part of numerous group and tandem shows, the most recent of which was "Singular Form," an all-sculpture presentation in September at Gallery Nine, which featured both time-honored and notable emergent talents.

For his collection of brass pieces, he again teams up with Gallery Nine (tel. 6877302). "Indigenous Rhythms," which opens tomorrow, features a series of jubilant harvesters and other images culled from Ortega's childhood memories of Bukidnon.

Pining for his hometown of Maramag, he has wistfully "decided to freeze those images in brass."

Though mostly inspired by Manobo culture, Ortega's pieces go beyond the rustic appeal of agrarian scenes and bucolic farmlands.

His fondness for capturing the traditional celebratory dance of good harvest speaks of his ability to extract an earthy aura from metal. The figures are caught—or, as the artist says, frozen—in a semi-contorted dance pose, conjuring the frenzy of the agrarian ritual.

One figure's arm is outstretched and the leg raised and bent, straddling a native tom-tom. The viewer almost expects to hear the rhythmic beating.

The manner in which Ortega manipulates the brass to form stringy sinew or skin stretched over ribs leaves random holes on the figure. The articles of clothing are crumpled brass, some edges protruding.

The pieces of clothing may appear as large bits of dried leaves, which are faithful to the reality of agricultural attire while perhaps providing an apt metaphor for the harvest.

The rough appearance of the metal, its sharp edges and the expansive implied movement of the figures may remind viewers of sculptures by Solomon Sapid. But while Sapid had a yen for depicting mythical creatures such as his favorite *tikbalang* or wind deities *amihan* and *habagat*, Ortega, it may be said, invokes the spirit of earth and nature, breathed into his subjects in communion.

Notable, too, are the rough, rather bubbled adhesions of the metal sheets, also similar to Sapid's. In Ortega's case, though, in the process of soldering, when the brass is momentarily liquefied, it is as though wet, earth had been infused into the subject, be it a fervently thankful farmer or a child playing on the ground.

Some figures seem as if they had risen from the fertile ground, half-human, half-mud, a fitting tribute to the earth from which they derive bounty and pleasure.

E-mail your comments to majorday@gmail.com.



"PASASALAMAT"

Shop or Save?



Drop the dilemma!

Get instant premium prizes or shop with P80,000 worth of gift vouchers. Free on SLF Savings Plan 1000-3P.

Isn't that guiltless indulgence?

* SavetoShop Plan 1000-3P is a transferable savings plan that you pay for three years. It guarantees returns and it can protect beneficiaries by insuring the owner.

SavetoShop rewards you today for your efforts to secure your tomorrow. Now, you can give in to your desires – have all of the fun with less of the guilt!

save to shop

* SavetoShop plans are Sun Elite and Gold Toga Series Plans, products of Sun Life Financial Plans, Inc., a member of the Sun Life Financial group of companies.

For more information, contact your Sun Life Financial Agent or Sales Consultant. You can also call SunLink through 849-9888 or visit www.sunlife.com.ph.

Promo period is from December 11, 2006 to February 28, 2007. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 4882, Series of 2006. See posters for details.

Sun Life Financial

THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION HAS NOT APPROVED THIS ADVERTISEMENT OR DETERMINED IF THIS IS ACCURATE OR COMPLETE. ANY REPRESENTATION TO THE CONTRARY CONSTITUTES A VIOLATION OF THE SECURITIES REGULATION CODE AND IS CRIMINALLY PUNISHABLE. THE PUBLIC IS ENCOURAGED TO REPORT IMMEDIATELY TO THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION ANY MISREPRESENTATION OR FALSE OR INACCURATE STATEMENT.

LIFE SIZE

BRUMANN displays his fancies for the grownup kid's interest in jesters, marionettes and Disneyland characters.

For feedback, e-mail us at:
lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

Text us your feedback: inquirer life name/age/city/message to
2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Dermstrata
time for you to shine!

The Dermstrata Glutathione Injectable lets you delight in the glow of healthy and lighter skin. This unique anti-oxidant also enhances your immune system and improves your eyesight.

* Park Square 2 Makati / 8159967 Ever Glorioso Commonwealth / 8526421 SM Manila / 5226967 Facial Glow by Dermstrata, SM Manila / 4042370 Festival Supermarket / 8077388 Arroyo Green Hills / 7944082 Isellan Recto / 7363761 Market Market Global City / 7582203 Novellitos Shopping Mall / 9390018 Robinsons Fairview / 9389667 SM Bacoor / (046) 4173050 SM Cagayan de Oro / (088) 8581187 SM Dasmariñas / (048) 4323043 SM Marikina / (044) 2388045 SM Pampanga / (045) 6616982 SM Southmead / 8064319 SM Centerpoint / 7153088 Sta. Lucia East / 6819491 SM Bicutan / 8240254 SM Fairview / 9377710 SM San Lazaro / 7662437 SM North Edge / 8285554 SM Venzuela / 2821839 SM Sta. Rosa / (040) 5344659 SM Lucena / (042) 3735412 SM Mall of Asia / 6580437

Brumann marks 43 years

MARKING 43 YEARS OF designing gemstones and metals, Hans Brumann is holding "A Blush of Nacre" at The Podium (ADB Ave., Ortigas Center, Pasig City). He sets the nacre or mother-of-pearl as focus of wall and floor sculptures.

The works represent his affection for his adopted homebase, the Philippines.

Employing a jigsaw fashion of interspersing the nacre with polishes of yellow and red narra, kamagong and molave—Philippine hardwood—he tries to duplicate the experience of wandering inside Philippine woods. Sheets of pearl peep through the woods like the moist misty air at noontime.

The exhibit is organized by Hiraya Gallery. Call 5233331.

SMART GOLD

CELEBRATE THE SEASON WITH STYLE.

Upgrade your image when you get the new **Nokia 6288** 3G mobile phones for free.

The new Nokia 6288 FREE at Plan 1800

- Dual camera
- 2MPx main camera
- Widescreen Video
- 320 x 240 pixel 262K display
- Free 512 MB memory incl.
- Bluetooth, IR & USB connectivity

The new Nokia 6288 FREE at Plan 1200

- 1.3 MPx camera with 4x zoom
- Video
- FM radio
- Widescreen color display
- IR & USB connectivity

Also available:

	Plan 500	Plan 800	Plan 1200	Plan 1800	Plan 2500	Plan 3500
Nokia 6070	2,000	FREE	FREE	FREE	FREE	FREE
Nokia 6151 (3G)	7,200	4,100	FREE	FREE	FREE	FREE
Nokia 6233 (3G)	9,300	6,300	2,600	FREE	FREE	FREE
Nokia 6288 (3G)	11,200	8,200	4,500	FREE	FREE	FREE
Nokia E61 (3G)	16,400	13,400	9,700	4,700	FREE	FREE
Nokia N70 (3G)	13,000	10,000	6,300	1,300	FREE	FREE
Nokia N73 (3G)	21,200	18,200	14,500	9,500	4,100	FREE
Nokia N80 (3G)	26,500	23,500	19,800	14,800	9,400	3,800
Nokia N91 (3G)	26,900	23,900	20,200	15,200	9,800	4,200
Nokia N93 (3G)	32,300	29,300	25,600	20,600	15,200	9,600

Subscriptions are subject to a 24-month lock-in period. 0% interest installment plans on 3G mobile phones are also available for new subscribers and switchers from other networks only. SMART's credit guidelines will apply to all applications. See flyers for details or call 888 through your SMART cellphone, 888-1411 (SMART Hotline) through landline, or visit any SMART Wireless Center nearest you.

Apply online NOW: visit www.smart.com.ph/gold

SMART Gold Miles Raffle Promo

Subscribe to any SMART Gold Postpaid plan within the promo period, and get a chance to win Philippine Airlines' Mabuhay Miles!

FIRST PRIZE: 150,000 Mabuhay Miles equivalent to 3 roundtrip tickets to Honolulu, Hawaii
SECOND PRIZE: 60,000 Mabuhay Miles equivalent to 4 roundtrip tickets to Hong Kong
THIRD PRIZE: 40,000 Mabuhay Miles equivalent to 5 roundtrip tickets to Kalibo, Aklan

To join, simply register by texting GOLD <Plan Amount> <Name/Address/Age/Gender> to 286 and earn free raffle points upon registration. Promo registration is free of charge. Earn additional raffle points when you download logos, picture messages, wallpapers, greeting cards or ringtones. Just text GOLD to 286 to get a list of available content. (P2.50/msg).

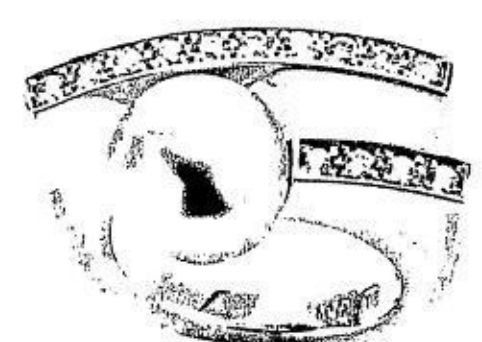
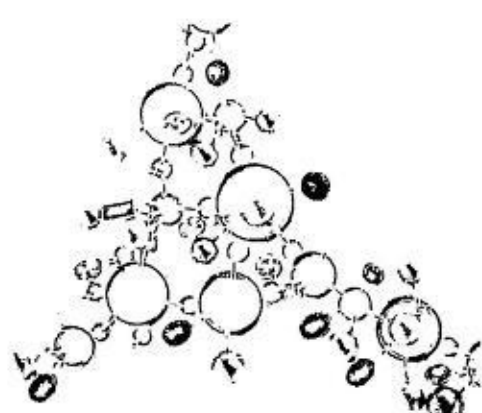
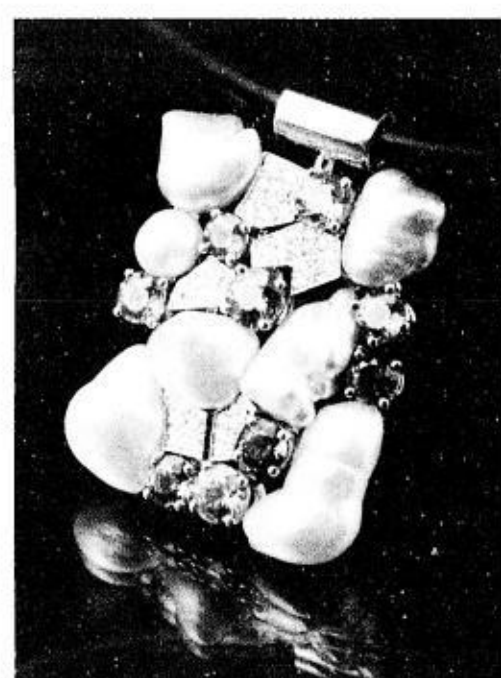
*All winners must be registered Mabuhay Miles Members to avail of the prizes. Non-members can apply for a Mabuhay Miles account via www.mabuhaymiles.com. Acquired mileage points may be converted to award of free trips to other destinations. For inquiries regarding Travel Award booking and redemptions, you may call PAL's Reservation or the Mabuhay Miles Service Center. Mabuhay Miles terms and conditions apply. Visit any Smart Wireless Center nearest you or see posters and flyers for details.

Promo duration: Nov. 30, 2006 to Feb. 28, 2007 Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 4858 Series of 2006

Enjoy these services with SMART 3G:

- High-speed Broadband Internet up to 384Kbps
- Local & International Video Calling
- Mobile TV and Video Streaming
- Full-Track MP3 and Multimedia Downloads

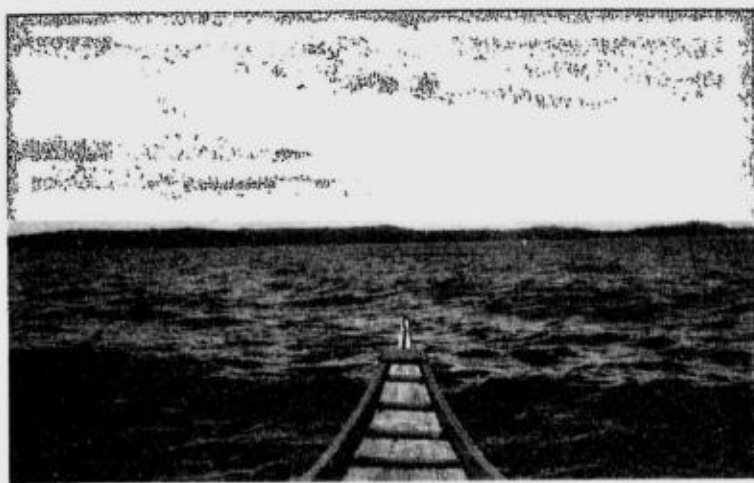
Enjoy high-speed Internet browsing for only P10 per 30 minutes with SMART 3G. 30 minutes begins when first browsing occurs. Browsing the SMART website: wap.smart.com.ph is free of charge.



A DERRING-DO in reinventing gemstones and transforming them into smart and playful graphic accessories.

NOKIA
Connecting People





"UNTITLED," by Neil Daza

Living on the edge

By Gino Dormiendo
Contributor

A DOG SPRAWLED ALONG a busy street, bloodied and lifeless. An aged taxi driver by his wheels perpetually in search of a passenger. A transsexual in Malate displaying evidence of his instant sex change.

Those are just some of the most striking images from the visual chronicle of Neil Daza, filmmaker and videographer, titled "Peripheries," opening Dec. 20 in Black Soup Art Space (former Cubao Shoe Expo, QC).

A disciple of socially involved photography, Daza seeks to probe the existence of marginal lives in the city, Third World hubris, and objects like personal effects that have outlived their usefulness, such as shoes, boxes, cosmetics kits.

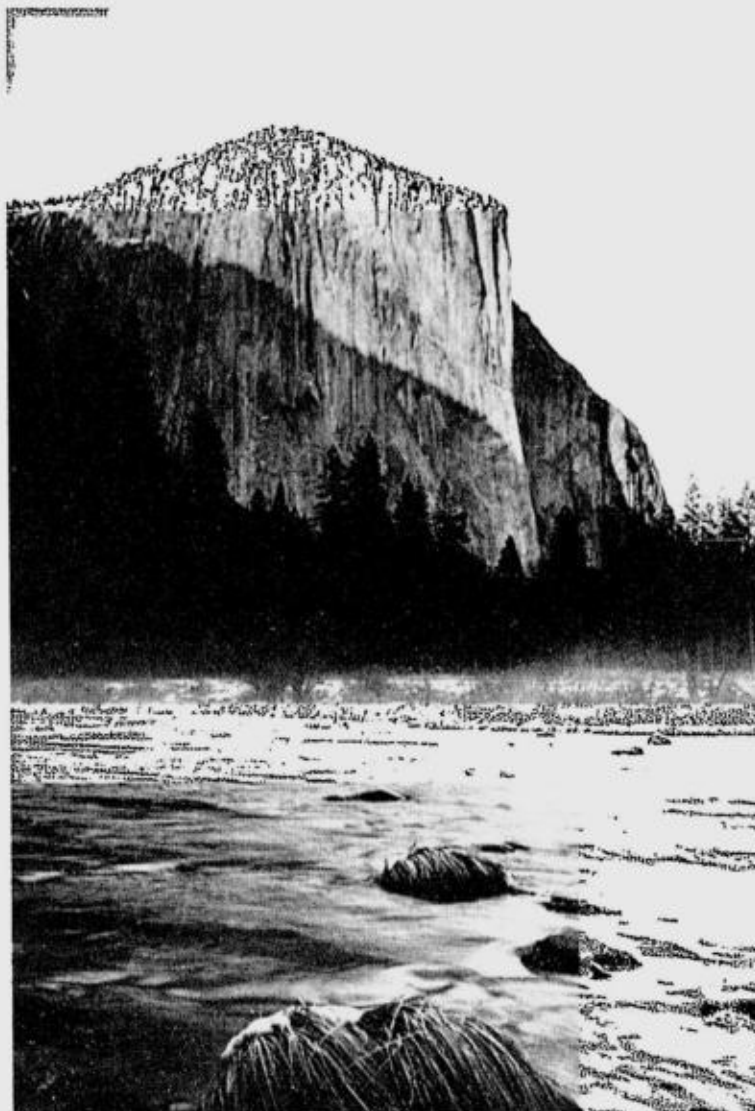
Places, both indoor and outdoor, that have grown decrepit from abuse, neglect and apathy are also part of the show.

A graduate of the University of Santo Tomas, Daza had previously mounted a show of his photographs, delving into the sanctity of death and dying and the rituals that accompany or dramatize them.

These photographs betray the propensity of most Pinoys to call attention to themselves, their show



"NORTHERN Road," by Daza



"EL CAPITAN by Merced River," by Edith Morales

of bereavement becoming a convenient excuse to appease God, a telenovela that gives rise to display of histrionics.

The subjects in this show are sundry people Daza has come across with in the course of his trips around the country and abroad. There are women, transvestites and transsexuals, plying the red-light district, in search of the elusive customer.

While there are also animals of the canine variety, they are shown as suffering from disability or cruelty, something the human characters will find empathy with.

An award-winning cinematographer, Daza has chosen to shoot



"BARBER Shop, Zamboanga," by Daza

images as he stumbles into them by accident or as fate would have it. Under these conditions, the subject is, indeed, capable of revealing its true nature.

As Daza writes in his notes: "Seeing the little things that mean nothing or trash to most people is paying attention to life as it happens, when we live each moment at a time."

There are transvestites and transsexuals in the show, plying sleazy joints around town, both here and in Thailand, two of the most hospitable places to their kind. There are circus denizens, too, like characters straight out of a Fellini film, or made-up extras desperately vying for a few minutes of fame.

There are engaging sideshows that will, by turns, amuse, tickle and shock viewers who are strangers to seeing life as raw and intimate as Daza's camera, devoid of the vulgarity of melodrama, or the niceties of chi-chi society.

But even those exposed to life's fringes are bound to discover something of themselves as they journey through the peripheries of life, once hidden from view and now fully exposed.

Images of Yosemite

Another show, this time by a nature photographer, reveals intimate facets of the wonders of Yosemite that unfold in the grip of winter.

The lenswoman is Edith Morales, who has captured the

great nature cathedral named Yosemite in California, in the course of her foreign trips, mainly to record its ephemeral magic.

Like the guru who inspired her, Ansel Adams, Morales had waited for the exact moment when the sun and the mountain would conspire, in tandem, to perform before a group of waiting, wide-eyed spectators. And all this in freezing-cold temperatures, with no relief in sight, but just the images that wonderfully emerged from the moment of reckoning.

There are awesome sights in Morales' portfolio that must have been taken by one who had patiently tarried just to get the best shot from the Yosemite. There are ice-capped pine trees, hundred years old, which are dwarfed by the towering creation in the background.

In the foreground, the running brook incessantly gurgles, reflecting the metallic tinge on the mountain above it. It is a view of nature's spectacle, indeed, but made intimate by the vantage point taken by these probing photographs.

Morales has wisely decided to extend her show for another two weeks, from Dec. 16 onward, at Touch 48, McKinley Road, Forbes Park, Makati.

It is, believe me, a most gratifying way to welcome the New Year.

E-mail author at gdormiendo@yahoo.com



JIM Ward's mind swirls at "Everlasting One," a painting by artist Donahue Calderon of Aurora, Quezon.

Art, Buddhism, Shanti and Bliss

By Lynett A. Villariba

THE VISUAL AND CULINARY art of Bliss ArtSpace and Café reflects the more than 30 years American Jim Ward has spent traveling and working throughout Asia before finally finding his "peace" in Baguio.

How the journey ended up in "Bliss" may well be a story of the confluence of East and West, of an American Buddhist from Chicago meeting a Filipino margi named Shanti (coincidentally, Sanskrit for "peace"), to settle in a city that is home to artists and followers of various spiritual persuasions.

Jim Ward's journey from corporate executive to art collector to Buddhist led him to the vegetarian ways of Ananda Marga practitioner Shanti Isla, then a special education teacher for children. Their paths met, and now they walk together through the art of life.

They created an interactive café where wandering souls explore two distinct worlds. The green room is an art space, where young artist Lala Gallardo from Bali starts out into the world of her grandfather Cesar Legaspi with her first solo exhibit of small paintings.

Bliss Café's ArtSpace and holistic food philosophy attracts intellectuals, artists and environmentalists or anyone with a cause. Artists in transit or in passage would drop by and give impromptu performances, from poetry reading to dance.

One time, it was environmentalist Chin-Chin Gutierrez who came up to Baguio to deliver her environmental message via her paintings. On another occasion, Raymund Maricaida

(known as Rama in the Philippine dance circuit), a dance artist who trained in Bali and Yogyakarta, celebrated his birthday in Baguio with an Asian fusion number for gallery guests, diners and friends.

On Friday, Dec. 22, the exhibit of the Villanueva family (Father Ben Hur and sons Bumbo and Jik) will open at 6 p.m., and run until Jan. 22, 2007. The exhibit has partnered with The Children's Hour.

In Bliss, Jim and Shanti have tried to create an environment conducive to healthy lifestyles and a liberal mix of art for the senses, mind and soul.

Bliss ArtSpace and Café is on the Munsayac Inn along Leonard Wood Road in front of Teachers' Camp in Baguio City. Tel. +63 74 442 2451.



"AFRICAN Vibe" hangs on the ceiling as a reminder of the heart and soul of South Africa.



PERFORMING artist Rama dances an Asian fusion number to celebrate his birthday in Bliss.

Ruel Caasi's transcendent abstraction

By Constantino C. Tejero

JUST AS A WRITER CAN BE DISTINGUISHED from a scribbler, or a poet from a versifier, so can one identify a painter from a bluffer.

It is true that many so-called painters cannot properly draw and so have resorted to abstraction to hide their inadequacy. But it is also true that one doesn't have to know how to sew to become a fashion designer.

And, anyway, just as many painters can wield exquisite draftsmanship but lack depth, and so can barely lift their art beyond posture and bravura. (These people are deluded if they think their expertise is way above that of the neighborhood modesta.)

One painter who's certainly none of the above is Ruel Caasi. This artist has had a creditable background in figurative painting before he eventually became an abstractionist.

Caasi attended a workshop in advanced pastel and oil painting under Fernando Sena when he was in high school, then workshops in printmaking under Fil de la Cruz and in graphic arts under Ernest Degasper while he was majoring in Painting in Philippine Women's University.

When he was still a student, he was awarded the Critics' Choice by the National Museum. Nine years later, he won the Juror's Choice from the Art Association of the Philippines, then the Curator's Choice from the National Commission for Culture and the Arts.

Caasi admits to have produced Mabini art in his early youth. And for a time he painted in the vein of Social Realism while also doing installation, even exhibited with the Surrounded by Water group, before he plunged into abstraction.

Shift and evolution

Caasi's earliest abstraction consisted of geometric shapes that seemed to allude to representational forms such as leaves, stones, hollow-block walls (obviously residuals of his figurative phase). Now it is composed entirely of color fields, color planes, layers of shades and textures, space segmentation, color gradation.

This shift can be appreciated in his latest exhibit "New Works," seven pieces in light industrial paint and acrylic on canvas, recently in The Big & Small Art Co. at the Artwalk, L/4, Bldg. A, SM Megamall, Mandaluyong City.

The pieces are invariably composed of overlapping planes of underpainting and overpainting with some spattering and blotches, in gray,

brown, red and orange. Each piece is accentuated with a rigid white line.

Their titles are just as recondite: "Divided Dynasty," "The Storyteller," "Message of the Mystic."

Here the blankness of the canvas is visually harking back to the works of the American Abstract Expressionists while thematically continuing his own early subjects of the tabula rasa, sensations and reflections.

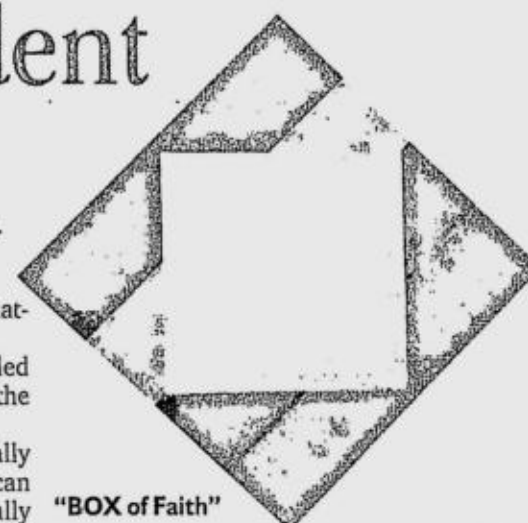
Two charcoal-gray untitled pieces have rusty mechanical parts as add-ons. Of these the artist says he has added "physical presence far stronger than any residual suggestion of imagery."

This recent refinement in Caasi's art is impressive. While most abstractionists are facing a wall, having reached the farthest swing of the pendulum and nowhere else to go, his abstraction is still smoothly evolving.

Blank and poetic

We first noticed the shift a few months earlier in the 10 pieces in his show "Time beyond Lines" in The Drawing Room, Metrostar Building, 1007 Metropolitan Ave., Makati City.

Caasi is here taking a serious leap from the rather broad line and rough colorism of his previous works to the fineness of line and pu-



"BOX of Faith"

richness of color of this one. Using strings glued on the canvas for segmentation of space, he fills up the pictorial field with nothing but vibrant hues and diffuse colors as can be found in the minimalist abstraction of Rothko, Ryman, Reinhardt, Barnett Newmann.

"A Walk from the Past" gradates from the gray bottom to the brown top but is violently bisected by a middle plane whose textured look resembles tree bark or river silt.

In "Wall Garden," an intensely poetic piece, the gradation is of green, like verdant vegetation or the glittering aquamarine of the surface of the sea.

"Wall Painting" is a color field drenched in yellow with splashes of indigo and slate, while "Untitled" has vigorous strokes of amber and gray, like paint pigment peeling off a wall.

"Crossing Commonwealth," probably referring to accident-prone Commonwealth Avenue, is rendered in horizontal stretches of gray and off-white, while "Seductive Silence" displays very fine gradation of vertical segments in off-white with craquelure effect.

Craft and wisdom

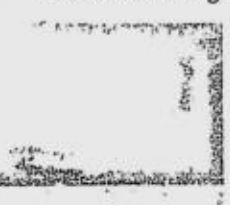
To the common viewer it is all diffuse colors, but to the artist these hues are "emotionally realistic." Each piece, with its color tonality and planar layering, is supposed to represent "the changing condition of mental experiences over periods of time." In effect, it is an exploration of ideas and sensations as well as an examination of memories.

There is chromatic as well as textural rhythm richly displayed in these pieces. Rather than being just some visual exercise or studies in composition one might take them to be, they, indeed, assume Rothko's metaphysical rendition of color and space.

A few that allude to specific objects and places may even be considered quasi-abstraction, vaguely crossing over to figuration while resolutely retaining the look of minimalist or geometric abstraction.

Clearly this guy didn't take the easy route, as he actually learned his skill and really earned his stripe as a painter. One can see he has polished his craft and gained wisdom in the process.

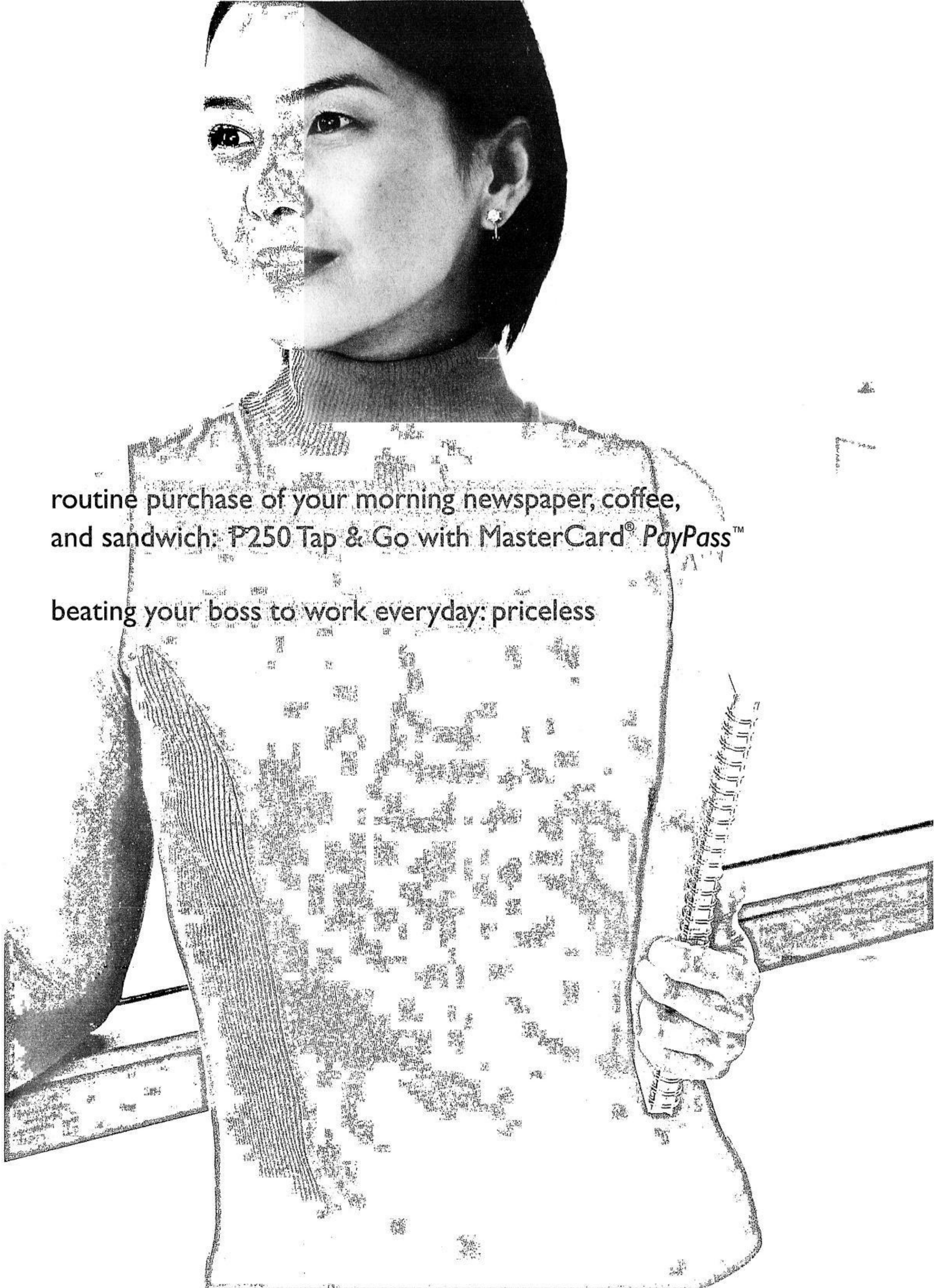
Caasi is one of our least hyped artists, but the seriousness and fineness of his art are undeniable. We have more respect for such art than the over-hyped one that is either facile and shallow or has technical mastery but nothing much to say.



"WALL Garden"



"WALL Painting"



routine purchase of your morning newspaper, coffee,
and sandwich: P250 Tap & Go with MasterCard® PayPass™

beating your boss to work everyday: priceless

Introducing MasterCard® PayPass™



MasterCard paypass

MasterCard is leading a payments revolution – the new Tap & Go technology that gives people an easier, more convenient way to pay. It works just like your traditional MasterCard card – but no more swiping or giving your card to cashiers. No fumbling of coins at fast food restaurants or waiting for change at car parks.

With acceptance locations in the Philippines and all over the world including the US, Asia, Australia, Europe, Africa and Middle East, MasterCard PayPass makes the transaction process simpler and quicker for all.

there are some things money can't buy. for everything else there's MasterCard.™



natural story
THEFACESHOP

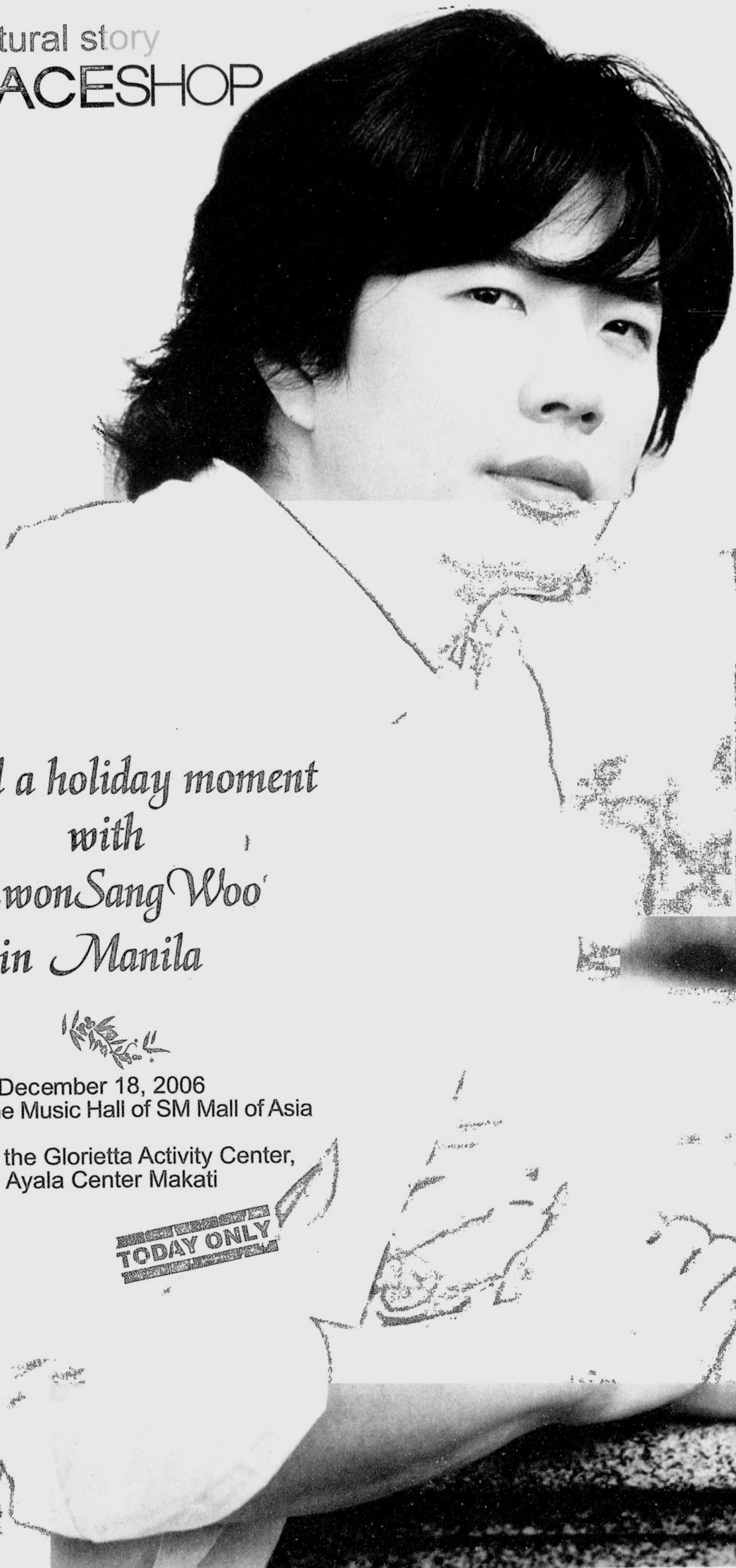
*Spend a holiday moment
with
Kwon Sang Woo
in Manila*



December 18, 2006
1PM at the Music Hall of SM Mall of Asia

6PM at the Glorietta Activity Center,
Ayala Center Makati

TODAY ONLY



LIFESTYLE

Text us your feedback:
Inquirer life name/age/city/message to
2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEA

Life story and art for kids

IN "THE ROCKING HORSE," a new children's book, a farmer copes with the double grief of losing his energetic wife and frail son to natural death.

She's too vigorous as to consume herself and run out of breath, and something of her zest for life has rubbed off on the latter despite his fragility, so that he, too, seems too brisk and bouncy. Both are too full of life as to run out of it.

Writer Becky Bravo tells the story in a no-fuss way, nearly sapping the drama out of the double tragedy. There seems an evasion of grief, as if the writer does not want the child-reader to go sappy and soapy. In tackling the deaths of a mother and her son in a near-monotone, the book seems to tell the story in zombie fashion.

In a way, the evasion is really an elision. In refusing to exploit the melodramatic potentials of its plot, "Rocking Horse" seeks to focus the reader's attention on the symbolism of the title.

When the boy's favorite mango tree inexplicably dies despite his nurturing, it is felled down and taken away. But it comes back as the wooden horse of the title: The grief over a tree's death is elided or omitted because with death comes renewal.

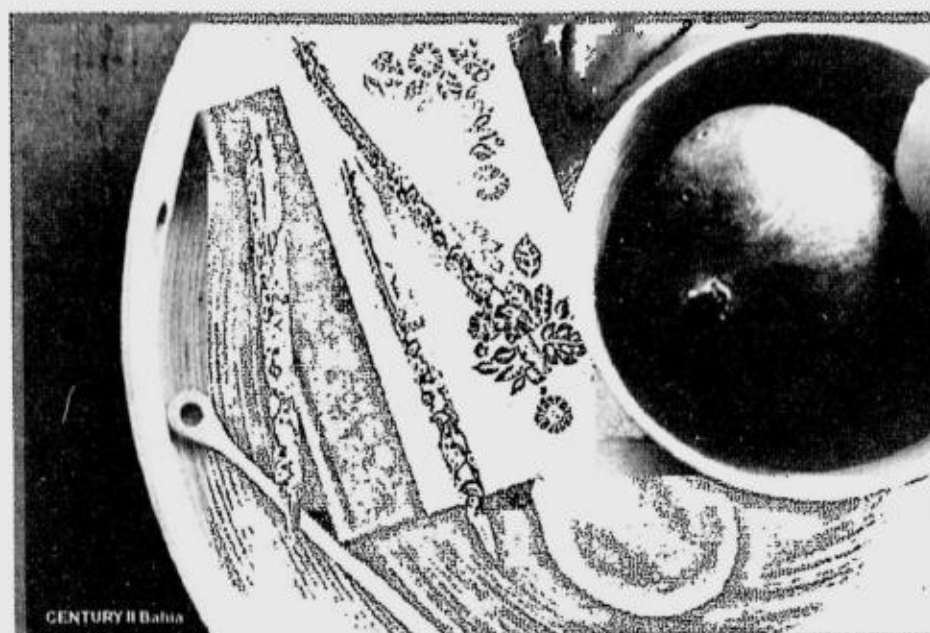
Of course, the tale of renewal comes in a very telling fashion. "The Rocking Horse" (published by Canvas and UST Publishing House; available at National Book Store and PowerBooks; tel. 7313522) is illustrated by Elmer Borlongan.

gan, who originally did a suite of paintings revolving around Bravo's story and which were later sold out to collectors.

The paintings form the illustrations of the book, making it quite a handsome package, especially for children. (The paintings are available in limited-edition giclee prints at 1/0f Gallery, 2/F, Serendra, Fort Bonifacio Global City; tel. 9013152 or 0917-2583265).

Borlongan's trademark bronze figures with taut skin complement the agrarian setting of the story. But the elemental terrain and colors of the Borlongan world have been muted a bit so as to make the pictures appeal to children. The overall impact is one of dreaminess and enchantment, and "The Rocking Horse" is a book that casts a spell, a beautiful spell.

Lito B. Zulueta

CROSS
BAHIA COLLECTION
BY RAFE

With a pattern created by the award-winning accessories designer, Rafe, these gorgeous pens will brighten any day with their tropical charm.

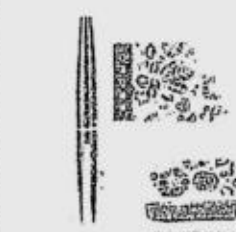
* The Bahia Century II patterned pen beckons with a striking print of leaves and flowers inspired by the beaches of this Brazilian resort area, popularized in the 60's by Mick Jagger and Janis Joplin. The print wraps around the

pen, echoing the design of a pareo (a brightly colored wrap-around skirt or cover-up) that is commonly worn on the beaches here. Choose from lush organic tones, like cocoa brown, oceano blue, and chili pepper red. (Pack it in your new basket bag like the one from Rafe New York, incorporating the Bahia pattern and delicate white leather trim.)

* ATX Bahia It doesn't come any easier than this to give a gift she'll love. The ATX Bahia pens come in saturated shades that evoke soothing waters and golden fruit. Cross make-it oh-so-simple to tuck it inside your leather hobo by providing a patterned pouch with Rafe's tropical design. Available in papaya yellow, oceano blue, and chili pepper red.

Available at Rustans Makati, Rustans Shangri-La and selected National Bookstore outlets.

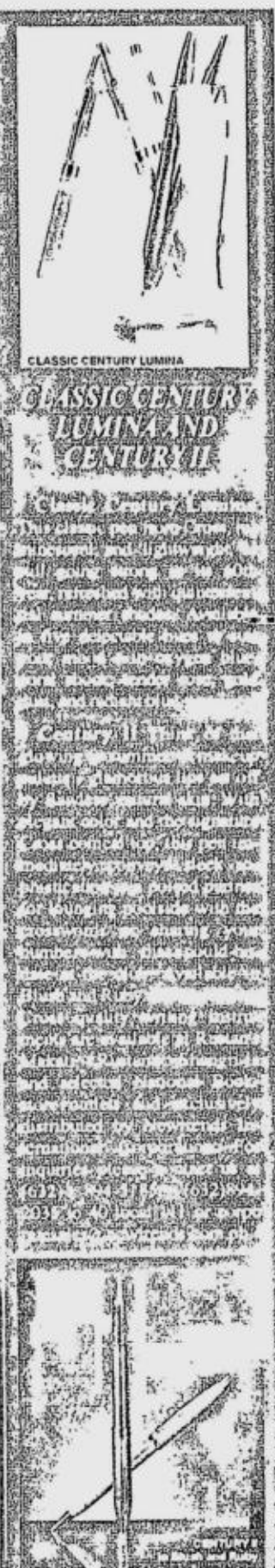
ATX Bahia Chili Pepper Red



ATX Bahia Oceano Blue



ATX Bahia Papaya Yellow



80% off

Book your Boracay flight at least 30 days in advance and get up to 80% discount on your ticket*

Booking Dates: Dec. 15, 2006 to Dec. 25, 2006
Flight Dates: Jan. 15, 2007 to May 31, 2007
*Limited seats and flights subject to availability and taxes.

849-0100
www.flyseair.com



FASTEST FLIGHTS* TO
BORACAY
MOST FLIGHTS TO PALAWAN
*DO328

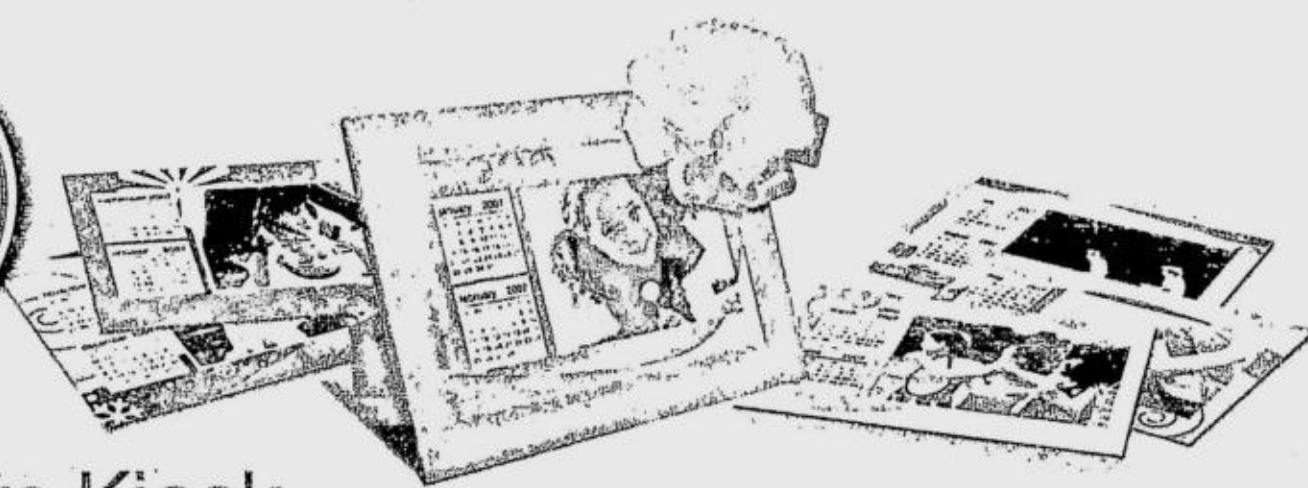
SEAIR
SOUTH EAST ASIAN AIRLINES
pending CAB approval

PICTURES MAKE PERFECT GIFTS

Finish your shopping today at the Kodak Picture Kiosk! Personalize your gift-giving with 6 of your favorite pictures printed as 4R Kodak calendar prints. Promo period: November 15 to December 31, 2006.



FREE
calendar holder for
every complete set of
calendar prints
purchased.



Kodak Picture Kiosk

Ribbon not included.
Per DTI-NCR permit No. 4426, Series of 2006

Girl Power

by Kristine Gonzalez

Cyndi Lauper was onto something when she came out with the hit song, "Girls Just Wanna Have Fun", but she didn't mention that girls could have just as much enjoyment while building strong leadership skills and a well-rounded character. The Girl Scouts of the Philippines provides an atmosphere like no other — where work merges with play.

The Girl Scout Program is the whole environment in which Girl Scouting takes place, the vehicle by which non-formal education aims are met, consisting of the structure, service projects, badgework (activities) on the Eight-Point Challenge, symbolisms and traditions. Imagine young girls, learning the essence of the "Girl Scouting Spirit"—fun, friendship and caring—from mentors who seek to bring out each youth's potential.

Just as a responsible parent wouldn't allow an innocent 4-year old to tinker with pots, pans and a lit stove in the kitchen, the GSP designs each program to tailor fit the needs, capabilities and aspirations of each particular age group.

The five age levels are:

- Twinkler level — girls 4-6 years of age
- Star level — girls 6-9 years of age
- Junior level — girls 9-12 years of age
- Senior level — girls 12-15 years of age
- Cadet level — young women 15-21 years of age

The Eight-Point Challenge program revolves around:

- The Challenge of Spirituality and Well-Being.
- The Challenge of Environment.
- The Challenge of Preparedness.
- The Challenge of Family Life.
- The Challenge of Economic Self-Sufficiency.
- The Challenge of Our Heritage and Citizenship.
- The Challenge of the Arts.
- The Challenge of the World Community. ■



Maranatha Estrada, Chief Girl Scout Medalist and the first Filipina to be conferred the Violet Richardson Award of the Soroptimist International of the Americas, delivering her response in Philadelphia, July 28, 2006.

The Girl Scout Promise

On my honor, I will do my duty:
To God and my country,
To help other people at all times;
And to live by the Girl Scout Law.

The Girl Scout Law

A Girl Scout's honor is to be trusted.
A Girl Scout is loyal.
A Girl Scout is helpful.
A Girl Scout is a friend to all and
a sister to every other Girl Scout.
A Girl Scout is courteous.
A Girl Scout respects living things.
A Girl Scout is disciplined.
A Girl Scout is self-reliant.
A Girl Scout is thrifty.
A Girl Scout is clean
in thought, word and deed.



“Girl Scouting inspired us to become who we are...”

The roster of personalities that credits the Movement for giving them a good headstart in their profession includes an impressive mix of leaders in various sectors like multi-awarded stage actress Lea Salonga, Miriam College President Patricia Licuanan, Miss Universe 1973 Margie Moran Florendo and DBP President Patricia Sto. Tomas. Here's a sampler and what they have to say...



“The Girl Scout Promise to do my duty to God and country has been my beacon in fulfilling my responsibility as a public servant.

I therefore commend the GSP for training the young Filipinas into future women leaders. May this organization continue its legacy for years to come!”

Miriam Defensor-Santiago
Senator

“Girl Scouting is fun! Every gathering is a learning experience. Since my seven-year-old ‘Brownie days’ I enjoyed outdoor camping and learned to be grateful for God’s gifts. It is ‘carpe diem’ and a sheer appreciation for life!”

Cristina Lim-Yuson
President/CEO, Museo Pambata
Chairman, WAGGGS Asia Pacific Committee

“My Girl Scouting experience has ingrained in me my love of country. On a more practical side, my adventurous spirit (rappelling, diving, jumping off a helicopter) was first learned in our outdoor activities which were simple challenges then.”

Cheche Lazaro
TV Journalist



“Organizations such as the Girl Scouts play an important role in empowering our youth by making them responsible and productive citizens. With your help, I am confident that we will succeed in uplifting the lives of our people and ensuring a better future for our children.”

Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo
Philippine President and
Chief Girl Scout



“I owe part of my success in life to Girl Scouting. When I became a Girl Scout, I was nine years old and starting in the movies. I can say that Girl Scouting helped me to become friendly and self-confident as I matured.”

Vilma Santos
Mayor, Lipa City



“Girl Scouting enhanced my leadership skills. In Girl Scouting, your belief in the value of respect and friendship is strengthened; girls learn to exemplify the right values, lead a good life and practice what they preach.”

Christine Bersola
TV Host-Anchor



The GSP Mission: Making Potent Leaders of Tomorrow from Today's Young Pinays

by Kristine Gonzalez

The President of the Girl Scouts of the Philippines

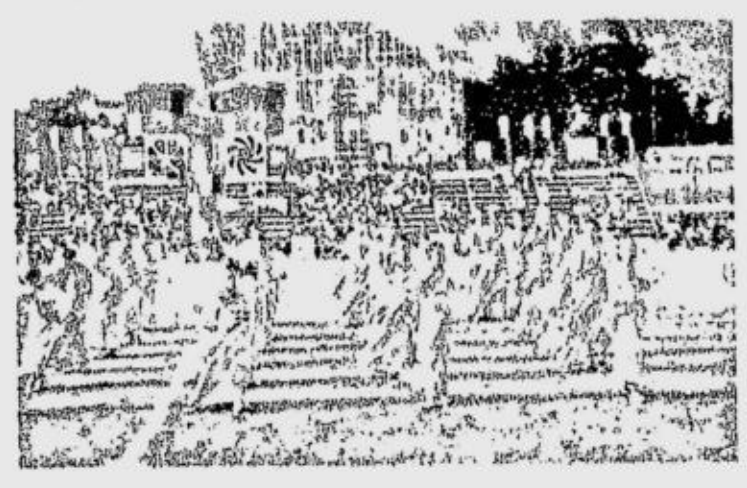
This triennium 2006-2009, Mrs. Teresita Bermudez Choa, or Tes as she is called by her friends, takes the reins as the chief overseer of the GSP. A feisty and independent woman dedicated to serving God, her country and her fellowwomen, she uplifts the plight of her fellow sisters and helps mold potent leaders. Wearing multiple hats as GSP President, Soroptimist International of the Americas first Filipina President, Mother Earth Foundation Founding Chairman, Friends of the Cultural Center of the Philippines Charter Member, Tes Choa is a Girl Scout role model at its finest. Signing up with the GSP at the young age of 9, President Choa rose up the ranks, proudly tucking 52 years of Girl Scouting under her belt, along with countless accomplishments, including a membership in the Olave Baden Powell Society and achieving the Advanced Toastmaster Bronze level in the Toastmasters Supreme Club.

A promise to keep

Every leader envisions a special set of goals for her organization, with a hint of personal flavor to mark her term.

The GSP brings awareness about each girl's rights and opens her eyes to being an achiever.

Tes Choa chose to begin a new tradition by celebrating the new triennium with a cocktail party, where members of the organization were given the chance to mingle with the new President and other GSP members. A quarterly newsletter, a special Girl Scout supplement, a more stable financial organization, updated training skills, media visibility, public awareness, and eventually, a book on successful local and international GSP luminaries are some of her visions for her term. She encourages her council members to be internet-savvy and to sign up with an e-mail provider so that communication can be exchanged via cyberspace.



Teresita B. Choa
President



Empowering young girls

Undeniably, the Girl Scouts of the Philippines is a formidable force in molding young girls into future leaders.

Partnership between an adult and a young person

With changes in modern communities and the fragmentation of families, it is becoming increasingly difficult for girls to find a trusted older person with whom they can

discuss their concerns freely. GSP provides those lines of communication and trust.

The GSP uses non-formal education, using programs and methods tailored to young girls' stages of development and needs. The programs are based on having fun while developing positive values.

The GSP brings awareness about each girl's rights, opening doors for travel and developing world-class leadership skills and training. The girls, in turn, share what they have learned with their fellow Filipinos. It also holds encampments which encompass activities such as rappelling, rope balance, white water rafting, food preservation, photography, orienteering, tent pitching, woodcrafting and pottery among others.

Girl Scouting takes the essence of a woman and makes it useful in the modern world, where one can be proactive and dynamic. The Girl Scouts of the Philippines gives every girl a voice, by making it possible for her to live her dreams. GSP makes it its mission to cultivate greatness. A Girl Scout's honor is to be trusted, and with that promise is the assurance of fulfillment. ■

A member of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS), the GSP participates in international Girl Scout activities like the Hong Kong Girl Guides Anniversary.

National Officers 2006-2009



Susan R. Locsin
1st Vice-President

Salud A. Bagalao
2nd Vice-President



Yolanda C. Hernandez
Secretary

Cristina Lim-Yuson
Treasurer



Susan O. Pagdanganan
Assistant Treasurer

Ma. Dolores T. Santiago
Executive Director



Divina A. Bautista
International Commissioner*

* appointed by the President to assist in international affairs



We give you free installation, so you can give broadband internet to your family.



SMART BRO
WIRELESS BROADBAND INTERNET
LET IT BRO

P999/monthly for 12 months

1 year lock-in period only • No hidden charges
Apply now with any SMART Bro Sales Representative

Come visit our LET IT BRO booths for some cool freebies.*
FREE REFRESHMENTS for new subscribers • FREE GIFT WRAPPING 1/2 every paid subscription • FREE WI-FI ACCESS

DEC 6: Pasong Pinyan 2, Expo Centro Armonia Center • DEC 6: Pasig • A Bazaar at the Esplanade, Mount DEQ • World Bazaar Festival, World Trade Center DEC 6, Asean Hills DEC 10: Mega Land E-Mall • East Central Plaza DEC 11: Mega Mall Lulu, Argosha City • SM Tresegaras Lulu • FSC Activity Plaza, Cinescape • Balanga City Night Market • Bay • Tagapal Public Market, Sta. Rosa Laguna DEC 14: Palicorla St. Mandakung DEC 15: Streetscape at the Fort DEC 16: Bazaar Bazaar 2006, Greenmeadows • Avante Square, Mega City • Plaza Lucena, Cebuano City • Bucana Ganan Bus Stop, Gapan • Centro Mall Solano • Centro Mall Smiting • Centro Mall Cuyayan • Oricks Stone Mall • Taguigroo • Plaza Real, Centro Taguigroo • City Mall, Centro Taguigroo DEC 21: Nuel Discovery Bazaar, World Trade Center

* Available in selected areas only.
Subject to change without notice.

Call 1888 from any SMART Bro phone or visit www.smartbro.ph for inquiries

PRICING DURATION DEC 2-31 2006
PER HOUR PERMANENT MD ADV. SERIES OF 2006



PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

LIFESTYLE

MONDAY,
DECEMBER 18, 2006



CURTAIN call for Ronan Ferrer, Joseph Dimson, Prof. Fidel Calalang of UST Singers, Randy Gilongo, Thea Perez, Eugene de los Santos, Irma Potenciano, Arnel Feliciano

A confluence of musical talents

Heavenly sounds poured forth from the classical Christmas concert, with music emphasizing the spiritual

By Amadis Ma. Guerrero
Contributor

FOR THE FOURTH TIME IN as many years, the University of Santo Tomas mustered its considerable talents from the UST Conservatory of Music headed by Dean Raul Sunico, and staged a large-scale concert at the UST Chapel. The theme this year was "A Christmas Prayer: UST Christmas Concert 2006."

And what heavenly sounds poured forth from the soloists, choirs and young musicians, members of the UST Symphony Orchestra led by Herminigildo G. Ranera. Composer Manuel Maramba, OSB, was the organist.

The soloists were tenors Randy Gilongo and Ronan Ferrer, and sopranos Irma Potenciano and Thea Perez.

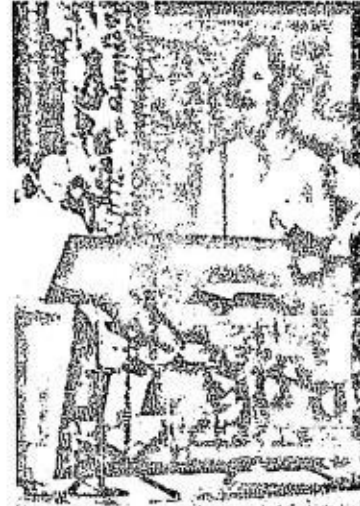
The choirs were the celebrated UST Singers under Fidel Calalang Jr.; Coro Tomasino led by Ronan Ferrer; Psalterion, a group of seminarians directed by Eugene de los Santos, who also leads the UST Liturgikon Ensemble; and the UST Grade School Choir under the direction of Joseph Dimson.

The video presentation heightened one's appreciation of the concert, as it flashed some lyrics, appropriate quotations from the Bible, and a wish for Christmas from people from various walks of life.

Tenors Gilongo and Ferrer, fresh from their success as the gallant but tragic Lenski in the opera "Eugene Onegin," appear to be on their way to being matinee idols, what with their sure technique, powerful high notes and, not least, their appeal to colegialas.

Ditto for attractive soprano Thea Perez, who managed to be heard above the fortissimo passages from the orchestra in the "Campana ng Simbahan" number.

Soprano Irma Potenciano, an institution within an institution, interpreting Gounod's "Ave Maria" with the UST Male Choir, proved that her voice is still in



SOPRANO Thea Perez with conductor Prof. Hermie Ranera

good form.

The emphasis of the music was on the spiritual, a reminder that Christmas should not be a time for drunken revelry and mindless merrymaking.

As Philippine Dominican provincial prior Fr. Edmund Nantes put it, "This concert is not mere entertainment... Christmas is connected with our faith and Our Lord Jesus Christ."

So let us dispense with the secular symbol that is Santa Claus (have you ever heard him mention the Nativity?), reindeers, mistletoe, Jack Frost and songs like "All I Want for Christmas Is My Two Front Teeth..."

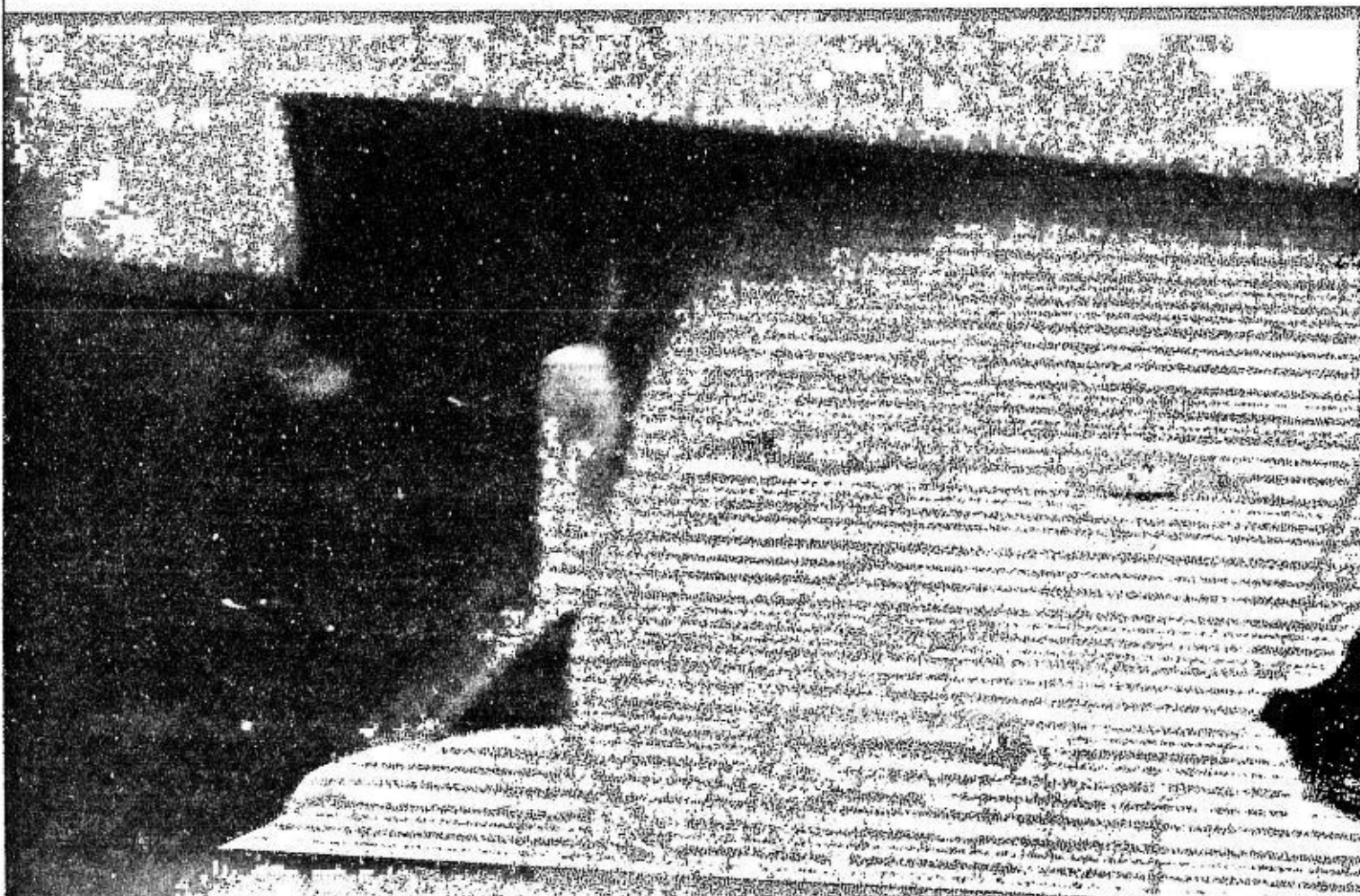
In the true spirit of Christmas, however, let us forgive the UST Percussion Ensemble (directed by Arnel Feliciano) for prancing around in Santa Claus costumes and lighted headbands.

In fairness, their novelty number, complete with dustpans and garbage cans, was entertaining and much applauded, and showed that they were skilled musicians (with a dancer's sense of timing!).

The intent was clear: to provide comic relief to what was essentially a serious, majestic even, concert.

"A Christmas Prayer: The UST Christmas Concert" will be telecast on ABC-5 Dec. 23, 4-7:30 p.m.

Canon
Delighting You Always



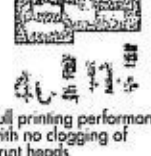
DON'T LET PRECIOUS MEMORIES FADE AWAY
Use only genuine Canon Inks and Paper

Don't let precious photos deteriorate in quality by using fake refill and compatible inks and papers. For best quality photos that will last a lifetime, use only Canon genuine inks and papers. They're designed to perfectly complement all Canon printers, so you can print your photo files flawlessly, with superb accuracy, brilliant colors and absolutely no distortions. With genuine Canon Inks and Papers, you're assured that every detail is captured at a truly professional level.

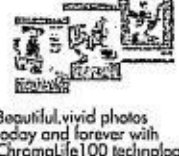
Specifically use Canon Pixma Printers + Canon Genuine Inks + Canon Genuine Papers



Canon PIXMA printers are fully covered by 1 year warranty



Full printing performance with no clogging of print heads



Beautiful, vivid photos today and forever with ChromaLife100 technology

Smart genuine FINE ChromaLife100

Insert an original warranty issued by Canon Marketing (Philippines), Inc.

South & Southeast Asia Regional Headquarters:

Canon Singapore Pte Ltd 1 Harbour Front Avenue #04-01 Keppel Bay Tower, Singapore 098632 www.canon-asia.com

Canon Marketing (Philippines), Inc.

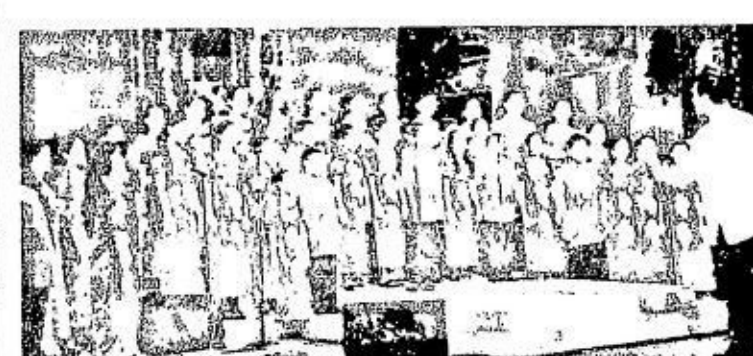
2F Marvin Plaza, 2153 Don Chino Rocas Avenue cor. V.A. Rufino St., Makati City Tel.: 884-9000 • Fax: 810-9797 • info@canon.com.ph • www.canon.com.ph



UST STRING Ensemble



UST SINGERS



UST GRADE School Choir

LIFESTYLE



SHAMAIRE Centenera-Buencamino with
Neil Ryan Sese in Tanghalang Pilipino's
"Orfeo sa Impiyerno"

BEST OF THEATER 2006

Bravo!

By Gibbs Cadiz

ASKED ONCE TO GIVE ADVICE to actresses looking for good roles, the Broadway diva Patti Lupone said, "Come to the theater... [where] I'm playing women my age and in control."

Many local actresses would know what Lupone was talking about. Meaty, interesting roles for mature women have all but dried up in movies, while TV offers nothing but clichéd parts.

Theater, however, is where dames of a certain age can rule, where experience and acquired character can translate to greater luminosity in front of the footlights.

This year, local stages offered a remarkable array of heavyweight roles for senior female thespians: Lady Torrance in Tennessee Williams' "Orpheus Descending"; Maria Callas in Terrence McNally's "Master Class"; Sr. Aloysius in John Patrick Shanley's "Doubt"; Maria Von Trapp in "The Sound of Music"; Paulina Escobar in "Death and the Maiden"; ZsaZsa Zaturrnah in the musical bearing her name; any of the various characters in Eve Ensler's "The Good Body"... And we're talking only of lead parts here.

Young actors, too, made their presence felt, with various productions showcasing their immense energy and talent.

The recital of the Philippine High School for the Arts' graduating class presented at least three superlative plays, while Peta's Metropolitan Teen Theater Guild offered a "Don Quixote" for the Ragnarok era that raised the bar on improvisation.

Over at Ateneo de Manila, the high school kids of Onofre Pagsanghan's Dulaang Sibol enchanted audiences with their musical "Adarna," while their college counterparts at Tanghalang Ateneo closed the year with a defiant staging of "Middle Finger Po."

We'll say it again: If these upcoming actors are the future of the industry, we can breathe more easily for Philippine theater.

This year also saw Herbie Go, the artistic director of CCP's Tanghalang Pilipino, leave his post to join his family in the US, with CCP marketing head Dennis Marasigan taking over the company.

Under Go's watch, TP shed its "historical-boring" image (his own words) to serve up theatrical fare marked by freshness and iconoclastic daring, best exemplified by its two biggest crowd-drawers, "Rmeo Luvs Dhewliett" (a jologs adaptation of the Bard's play) and "ZsaZsa Zaturrnah."

BRAVO/F2



ANDOY Ranay and Missy Maramba in
Dulaang UP's "Shock Value"

This year, women and kids of nuance, energy and talent ruled the stage.
Here's our two cents' worth on the best that local theater offered in 2006

BUY ONE

99K DP

ANY OPTRA WAGON MODEL

FREE 1-yr Auto Insurance Fee
FREE 2-yr (or 30,000 kms, whichever comes first)
Periodic Maintenance Services
FREE 3-yr LTO Registration



99K DP

ANY OPTRA SEDAN MODEL

FREE 1-yr Auto Insurance Fee
FREE 2-yr (or 30,000 kms, whichever comes first)
Periodic Maintenance Services
FREE 3-yr LTO Registration



79K DP

AVEO 1.5L ISMP/AT

FREE 1-yr Auto Insurance Fee
FREE 2-yr (or 30,000 kms, whichever comes first)
Periodic Maintenance Services
FREE 3-yr LTO Registration

get a chance to
WIN ONE!

On top of a low down payment and fantastic freebies, a purchase of any Optra or Aveo 1.5L gives you a chance to win a Chevrolet Spark. So get the best out of owning a Chevrolet. There's only a small price to pay for. Or, it could even be free.

CHEVROLET  WE'LL BE THERE

Test drive today at your nearest Chevrolet dealer: MAKATI 867-8183 to 87 • QUEZON AVENUE 374-1250 to 59 • SHAW 535-4944, 535-4930, 533-1263 • PASIG 672-1612 to 14, 672-1486 • ALABANG 771-1206 to 09 • NORTH EDSA 374-9992 to 97, 374-9963 • MANILA 564-0129 • CEBU (032) 234-0426 to 29 • PAMPANGA (045) 963-3333, (045) 860-2000 • DAVAO (082) 300-7777, (082) 235-3811 • DAGUPAN (075) 523-7777, (075) 523-1835, (075) 515-5577 • ILOILO (033) 329-2888, (033) 329-2222 • BACOLOD (034) 708-2489

CHEVROLET
ROADSIDE
ASSISTANCE
24 hr

WARRANTY
3 YEARS
(WHICHEVER COMES FIRST)

1800-1888-4646
TOLL FREE

No points required, no conversion to miles,
simply 20% OFF on fares.



Asian Spirit



EASTWESTBANK

Apply now! Call 888-1700
or visit www.eastwestbanker.com



Your vacation card

Bravo!

From page F1

Go also had a hand in establishing the "Virgin Labfest," an annual festival of new plays by Filipino playwrights that may yet prove to be his big legacy to local theater.

Here's our two cents' worth on the best of Manila theater in 2006. The more unfamiliar the names, the younger the actors probably are—and that's a good thing in our book.

Best Play (one act)

"Welcome to IntelStar"



EULA Valdez and Joey Paras in Tanghalang Pilipino's blockbuster musical, "ZsaZsa Zaturnnah"

(Chris Martinez, writer/director). This witty, subtle parody of the call-center phenomenon employed an "unprepossessing" device—a company orientation program for new hires—to pose absurdist questions about identity, alienation, self-exile and self-respect. A perceptive, subversive gem.

Honorable mentions: "Ang Unang Aswang" (Rody Vera; Herbie Go and Dulaang Sipat Lawin, dirs.); "First Snow of November" (Alvin Dacanay; Herbie Go and Dulaang Sipat Lawin, dirs.); "Lihis" (Martin Sherman's "Bent," translated by Manny Canteras; Herbie Go and Dulaang Sipat Lawin, dirs.); "Tres Ataques de Corazon" (Nicolas Pichay; Vince de Jesus, dir.); "Ars Poetica" (Eugene Evasco and Chris Martinez; Arlo de Guzman, dir.)

Best Play (full-length)

"Orfeo sa Impiyerno" (Tennessee Williams' "Orpheus Descending," translated by George de Jesus III; Jose Estrella, dir.). Tennessee Williams' overripe drama about passion and prejudice



CRIS Pasturan, Paolo Rodriguez, Paolo O'Hara and Bong Cabrera in Alain Timar's "Godot, Wer Is U?," based on Samuel Beckett's "Waiting for Godot." Set design by Gino Gonzales

in a small town became the year's most moving theatrical experience, anchored by Shamaine Centenera-Buenacamino's shattering central performance.

Honorable mentions: "Godot, Wer Is U?" (Samuel Beckett's "Waiting for Godot," translated by George de Jesus III; Alain Timar, dir.); "Doubt" (John Patrick Shanley; Chari Arespa-cochaga, dir.); "Master Class" (Terrence McNally; Michael Williams, dir.); "Don_Q" (dramaturgy by Jovi Miro, scenes devised by Peta's Metropolitan Teen Theater Guild; Chris Millado, dir.); "Middle Finger Po" (Han Ong; Ronan Capinding, translator/director)

Best Actor-Play

Andoy Ranay ("Shock Value"). In Floy Quintos' play about the elusive truth of TV entertainment, Ranay commanded attention by personifying, down to the last prefabricated smile or tear, the synthetic authenticity at the heart of successful celebrity-hood.

Honorable mentions: Abner Delina Jr. ("First Snow of November"); JJ Ignacio ("Middle Finger Po"); Niccolo Manahan ("Doubt"); Paolo O'Hara and



CAST of Tanghalang Ateneo's "Middle Finger Po," led by JJ Ignacio (3rd from left, front row)

Bong Cabrera ("Godot, Wer Is U?"); Lakhi Siap and Acey Aguilar ("Lihis"); Jeremy Domingo ("Hamlet Redux"); Christian Segarra ("Don_Q")

Best Actress-Play

Shamaine Centenera-Buenacamino ("Orfeo sa Impiyerno"). Of Vanessa Redgrave's performance in the 1989 Broadway staging of "Orpheus Descending," Frank Rich wrote, "Miss Redgrave takes complete, perhaps eternal possession of the role of Lady Torrance." Centenera-Buenacamino performed a similar act of stunning appropriation in the TP adaptation.

Honorable mentions: Cherie Gil ("Doubt"); Jay Glorioso ("Master Class"); Eugene Domingo ("Welcome to IntelStar"); Juno Henares and Pinky Amador ("The Good Body"); Irma Adlawan and Mailes Kanapi ("Bakeretta"); Leah Tarynne Abella ("Calamba"/Severino Montano Trilogy); Amihan Tence Ruiz ("Ang Unang Aswang")

Best Featured Actor-Play

Richard Cunanan ("Hamlet Redux"). Tony Mabesa's genre-bending take on the Shakespearean classic found its wily, sleazy, charming Claudius in Cunanan, whose porcine frame oozed cor-

ruption from every pore.

Honorable mentions: Kenn Cayunda ("Middle Finger Po"); Cris Pasturan and Paolo Rodriguez ("Godot, Wer Is U?"); Mario O'Hara ("Orfeo sa Impiyerno"); Jake de Leon ("Ang Nilalang ni Victor Frankenstein"); Faust Peneyra ("Shock Value"); Tony Amador ("7 ng Umaga"); Jason Barcial ("Don_Q")

Best Featured Actress-Play

Mailes Kanapi ("Orfeo sa Impiyerno"). This actress was on a roll this year, with topnotch performances in "Orfeo," Chong Wishing's "Bakeretta" and Rody Vera's "The Return of Flor." Here, she took your breath away with a demonstration of sheer emotional need and nakedness as the town outcast Carol.

Honorable mentions: Missy Maramara and Jacinta Remulla ("Shock Value"); Jay Glorioso and Cathy Azanza ("Doubt"); Enchong Kaimo ("7 ng Umaga"); Nicole Pacqueo ("Ang Nilalang ni Victor Frankenstein"); Ma. Adeinev Reyes ("Middle Finger Po")

Best Musical

"ZsaZsa Zaturnnah" (music and lyrics by Vince de Jesus; Chris Millado, dir.). "Victoria! Winner! Tagumpay!" as one of its songs went. Millado's fearless, outrageously imaginative transplantation of the cult comicbook to the musical stage made for the very essence of Pinoy camp.

Honorable mentions: "The Sound of Music" (music by Richard Rodgers, lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II; Baby Barredo, dir.); "We're Still Hot!" (music by JJ McColl and Rueben Gurr, lyrics by JJ McColl; Leo Rialp, dir.); "Joseph the Dreamer" (adapted from a Cam Floria cantata; Freddie Santos, dir.); "Adarna" (music and lyrics by Dulaang Sibol; Onofre Pagsanghan, dir.)

Best Actor-Musical

Joey Paras ("ZsaZsa Zaturnnah"). Ricci Chan may have originated the role of Didi (terrifically), but it was Paras who brought

BRAVO/F3

Give something true,
Get something cool!

Subscribe to the Inquirer and receive cool gifts like this all-weather jacket!*



- ☐ **Subscription 1 (360 issues)**
at P6,480, PLUS these FREE items worth P4,696!
• 22 bonus issues • Hinge Inquirer Magazines
• Inquirer Magazine Supplements
PLUS an Inquirer Jacket
- ☐ **Subscription 2 (180 issues)**
at P3,240, PLUS these FREE items worth P2,130!
• 10 bonus issues • Hinge Inquirer Magazines
• Inquirer Magazine Supplements
PLUS an Inquirer Coffee Mug
- ☐ **Subscription 3 (90 issues)**
at P1,620 PLUS these FREE items worth P1,072!
• 4 bonus issues • Hinge Inquirer Magazines
• Inquirer Magazine Supplements
PLUS an Inquirer Handy Bag

FREE delivery!

*Promo open to Metro Manila residents only

Cash, Cheque, Master Card, or Visa payments accepted.
Go ahead, take a stand. Call now.

Philippine Daily Inquirer delivers.

Promo Period is from December 18, 2006 to February 28, 2007. See flyers for full details. Per DTI-NCR Permit # 5525, Series of 2006.

Call 896-6000 to subscribe





ROBBIE Guevarra and Liesl Batucan in Repertory Philippines' "I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change"



THE CAST of Philippine Opera Company's "Master Class" taking a bow, led by Jay Glorioso (third from left) as Maria Callas

CHANGYU RED WINE GREAT FOR CHRISTMAS GIFTS AND PARTIES



JUSTIC CORPORATION
Tel: 241-5237 • 242-2048 to 49
DEALERS ARE WELCOME

Bravo!

From page F2

the necessary warmth and whimsy to the role to make the musical, sans the neon externals, a valentine to friendship.

Honorable mentions: Ricci Chan and Tuxqs Rutaquio ("ZsaZsa Zaturrnah"); Audie Gemora ("The Sound of Music"); Franco Laurel ("Joseph the Dreamer"); Robbie Guevarra ("I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change")

Best Actress-Musical

Eula Valdez ("ZsaZsa Zaturrnah"). The year's most entrancing discovery, movie star Valdez amazed everyone with her singing-dancing-acting-fighting turn onstage as the red-haired superheroine. In theater pillar Tony Mabesa's words: "She is to the theater born!"

Honorable mentions: Menchu Lauchengco-Yulo and Monique Wilson ("The Sound of Music"); Liesl Batucan ("I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change"); Pinky Marquez ("We're Still Hot!"); Lanie Sumalinog ("Gabriela, an Oratorio")

Best Featured Actor-Musical

Arnold Reyes ("ZsaZsa Zaturrnah"). Alternate Lauren Novero was the hunkier Dodong, but in place of the former's hustler vibe, Reyes won you over with a mix of boyish naivete and sensitive singing.

Honorable mentions: Joel Trinidad ("Something to Crow About"); Lauren Novero ("ZsaZsa Zaturrnah"); Raymund Concepcion ("Joseph the Dreamer"); Topper Fabregas ("The Sound of Music")

Best Featured Actress-Musical

Pinky Marquez ("The Sound of Music"). The mighty "Climb Every Mountain," sung by Marquez as the Mother Abbess, offered a thrilling Act 1 finale to the classic musical. Count in her assured acting, and you understand why Marquez stood out here and in an earlier show, "We're Still Hot!"

Honorable mentions: Camille Lopez-Molina ("The Sound of Music"); Kalila Aguilos and Agot Isidro ("ZsaZsa Zaturrnah"); Nina Romualdez ("We're Still Hot!"); Pam Gumabon ("Joseph the Dreamer")

E-mail the author at gcadz@inquirer.com.ph, visit www.gibbscadz.com.



JEREMY Domingo as Hamlet in Dulaang UP's "Hamlet Redux" (English version)



MAILES Kanapi and Irma Adlawan with Chong Wishing, visiting Japanese playwright/director of Tanghalang Pilipino's "Bakeretta"

ALL THE RAVE THE MOTOROLA CLUB SCENE

Disco, new wave, electronica, trance — like a chameleon, the metro club scene often reinvents itself to reflect the tastes of the hardest clubbers. And behind all these great parties is a global brand known for bringing the innovative and the cutting-edge to the modern lifestyle: Motorola.

Attending Motorola's parties have become *de rigueur* for metro's partyphiles, a venue not only to see and be seen, but also hear the latest in club music. Motorola also brings to Manila the great modern-day icons of the global clubbing scene.

The Cream Halloween Ball at the World Trade Center was certainly one of those mania-inducing events. Motorola also presented the world-famous God's Kitchen dance festival.

The Embassy Super Club was transformed into the ultimate party place as Motorola hosted

Telepopmusik's Christophe Hétier. Motorola also treated clubbers to a night of pure music pleasure with House music icon DJ Steve Lawler. Motorola's Salted Sunday Afternoon Party with DJ Miguel Migs was also swamped with die-hard club scene denizens.

With uber-successful events that featured only the biggest names, Motorola truly has lorded it over in Manila's clubbing scene. And its partnerships with top events groups like Embassy, Driven Manila, Bigfish, and Eventscape only serves to heighten the must-attend ante of Motorola parties. Indeed, when it comes to all things music — from the hippest parties, the latest tunes, the most exciting events, Motorola is truly all the rave.

Up next: December 22, 2006 at EMBASSY and December 25, 2006 at the new club, WAREHOUSE 135.



Mr. & Ms mag's double treat this Christmas

RIDING HIGH DUE TO HONORS bestowed on its publisher, Eugenia Duran-Apostol, in 2006, including the Ramon Magsaysay award for Journalism, Literature and Creative Communication Arts and one of Time's 60 Years of Asian Heroes, Mr. & Ms gives a treat to its readers with a very special December 2006-January 2007 double issue.

Show-biz darling Judy Ann Santos and her boyfriend Ryan Agoncillo grace the cover.

Readers will enjoy getting wonderful and inexpensive gift ideas like bottled herb vinegar, flavored sugar, caramelized rose petals which are perfect to give away to friends and loved ones.

Poinsettias, the famous yuletide blossoms, also make an appearance in the magazine as a suggested indoor décor to brighten even the drabdest of rooms this yuletide.

Think of Christmas as a season of hope, says writer Lizette Raquel, a graduate of Theology and Pastor of the Methodist Church. "As we celebrate Christmas, we do not just commemorate the birth of a savior. We rededicate ourselves to Jesus Christ and seek to manifest that God is with us as we seek to change a world that is still in need of a savior," she notes.

Mr. & Ms brings readers to the streets with stories of children who already make a living despite their youth. Aptly titled "Waiting for Santa," the article tugs at your heart as one street child relates: "Pancit at tinapay" after being asked what they usually have for their Noche Buena celebration.

In the spirit of celebrations, Alice Villadolid's "The Spirit of Sharing" discusses gift-giving traditions from all over the globe. She involves the readers to reminisce and turn nostalgic by lines like: "Probably the best tradition of the season is the children meeting their godparents. The latter would have something wrapped for the godchild, who would acknowledge it with a 'pasalamat at mano'... Christmas and New Year are times for celebrating togetherness."

On the other hand, in keeping with Mr. & Ms' esoteric features, columnist Jaime Licaucio shares with readers a different kind of celebration which he recently involved himself in. That is, the celebration of the Aswang Festival in Capiz where he was one of the invited guests. In usual fashion, Licaucio relays his thoughts on *duwendes*, *kapres*, *engkantos*, etc.

Show-biz guru Ethel Ramos writes about the many celebrities who may just spend this Christmas alone and without a partner. Get your Mr. & Ms copy now and get a free calendar with delicious recipes! Available at 7-11 stores, Papyvare, Filbar's, Rustan's Supermarket and popular magazine stands nationwide.



PowerShot
A GREAT SHOT EVERY TIME



TAKE WINNING SHOTS FROM DIFFICULT ANGLES.

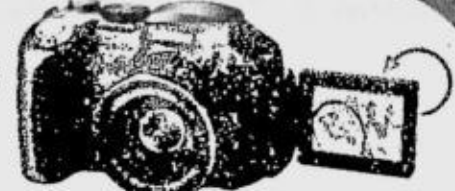
INTRODUCING THE POWERSHOT **VARI-ANGLE** DIGITAL CAMERAS



PowerShot A640 P24,950
• 10 Megapixels
• 4x Optical Zoom
• 6.35cm (2.5") Vari-angle LCD
• FREE 512MB Memory Card



PowerShot A630 P21,950
• 8 Megapixels
• 4x Optical Zoom
• 6.35cm (2.5") Vari-angle LCD
• FREE 512MB Memory Card



PowerShot S3 IS P29,950
• 6 Megapixels
• 12x Optical Zoom
• 5.08cm (2.0") Vari-angle LCD
• FREE 256MB Memory Card

Promo period is from November 5 to December 31, 2006. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 4909, Series of 2006.

Insist on an original warranty issued by Canon Marketing (Philippines), Inc.

Canon Marketing (Philippines), Inc. 2F Marvin Plaza, 2153 Don Chino Rocas Avenue cat. V.A. Rufino St. Makati City
Tel: 884-9000 • Fax: 810-8797 • info@canon.com.ph • www.canon.com.ph

PictBridge

POWERED BY DIGIC II

The Lakeshore



The Lakeshore is a world-class residential commercial and recreational development project of Central Country Estate Incorporated, located at Kilometer 71 of the North Luzon Expressway, Mexico, Pampanga – a 30 - minute drive from Balintawak tollgate, 12 minutes from Diosdado Macapagal International Airport, and just 5 minutes from SM City Pampanga and Robinson's Starmills.

The Timeless elegance of classic Mediterranean architecture combined with the grandest elements of Earth, Water and Sky creates a lifestyle that soars above and beyond the ordinary. This self-contained community boasts of its 12-hectare man-made lake framed by the majestic panorama of Mount Arayat. At the Lakeshore, everyday is a vacation.

It's time to come home...

-Boy Abunda



Balibbayan
OPEN HOUSE

December 21, 2PM onwards • The North Park

Office: (02) 722.1234 (045) 961.6161 Toll Free: 1800.10.thelake Email: ccei97@pldtdsl.net
(02) 725.9518 (045) 961.2525 Fax: (02) 725.9528 www.lakeshore.com.ph

Mr. Fernando Suarez will celebrate a Healing Mass on December 23, 2006, 2PM at The Lakeshore Bird Air Tent, Km. 71, NLEX, Mexico, Pampanga. Everyone is invited. For inquiries, please call (045) 961.8044 or Text 09175107229 / 09212954384

ENTERTAINMENT

Editor Emmie G. Velarde

2207 (Globe) and 283 (Smart) or email us at pr_entertainment@inquirer.com.ph



LEA Salonga with "Pinoy Dream Academy" scholars

Lea tries coaching

By Bayani San Diego Jr.

TONY-WINNING STAR OF stage and screen Lea Salonga jumped on the reality TV bandwagon recently via guestings as judge on ABC 5's "Philippine Idol" and as teacher on ABS-CBN's "Pinoy Dream Academy."

She gave pointers to Idols and Dreamers—advising the latter to "be disciplined, respectful, professional, punctual."

On "Idol," she was very specific in pointing out strengths and weaknesses. A self-confessed "American Idol" fan, Lea was eerily Simon Cowell-like, never failing to hit the nail on the head. After all, she is famous for her "bionic ears" and "pitch-perfect voice."

Would she ever consider being a full-time voice teacher? (Last year, she tutored KC Concepcion and Karel Marquez, the Belles of Atlantis' "Beauty and the Beast").

"I'd like to be ... a coach of some sort," she wrote in an e-mail sent to INQUIRER Entertainment on the eve of her flight to Doha, Qatar, where she sang at the closing ceremonies of

Tony winner jumps on the reality TV bandwagon as judge and teacher

the 15th Asian Games on Friday. "There are better voice teachers but ... I think I can teach about life in this business, not just onstage, but off it."

Would she have joined a reality talent search if she were a neophyte at this time?

"Probably not," she quipped. "Back in the day, there were singing contests as well ('Tawag ng Tanghalan' and 'Ang Bagong Kampeon') but I wasn't ever attracted to them. I was into musical theater. I think I would have taken the same route."

What's her take on the reality TV cottage industry? "It's a rapid way to get famous," she noted. As I told the PDA scholars: "Becoming

Old Sampaguita films off for US market

By Nini Valera

TEN CLASSIC BLACK-AND-WHITE films produced by Sampaguita Pictures in the 1950s and '60s have been re-mastered and digitalized for sale in the US market.

Unfortunately, the quality of the mastering did not pass muster and the films, sourced from Sampaguita's archives have to undergo more

high-tech restoration jobs, according to Lilibeth Vera-Perez-Nakpil, youngest daughter of Sampaguita's founders, Dr. Jose R. Perez and Azucena Vera-Perez.

"The buyers complained of scratches and other defects," Nakpil told INQUIRER Entertainment. "They have to be enhanced some more."

She said the films, which include classics like "Hong Kong Holiday,"

"The Big Broadcast," "Tangi Kong Pag-ibig," "Jack and Jill" and "Maalaala Mo Kaya," and which starred Sampaguita "queens" Gloria Romero, Amalia Fuentes, and Susan Roces, were re-mastered by Unitel Films' Tony Gloria, who also acquired US distribution rights.

Under the deal, Gloria would

OLD/G2

Experience the ultimate in skin care at



LET'S FACE IT
THE ONE STOP FACIAL SALON

NOW OPEN
MARKET MARKET
Fourth Floor

20% OFF
ON SELECTED SERVICES
PROMO RUNS UNTIL DECEMBER 31, 2006
EXCLUSIVE FOR MARKET MARKET ONLY
PER DTI-NCR PERMIT NO. A2-483 SERIES OF 2006

SM BACOOR / (046) 970-6122 • SM SOUTHMALL / 800-3291 • FESTIVAL MALL / 771-0418 • ALABANO TOWN CENTER / 807-5411 • 1UP HOMES PARAÑAQUE / 825-3998 • SM BAGUIO (074) 619-7744 • PAVILLION MALL / (099) 411-3758 • PARKSQUARE / 817-8331 • GREENBELT / 895-1715 • SM MANILA / 527-5805 • ROBINSON'S MARIÑA / 523-9261 • SM CITY SUVA / 826-5352 • ROBINSON'S PLAZA LIPA / (043) 757-3589 • SM DUTAN / 777-9282 • SM MEGAMALL / 636-5589 • ROBINSON'S GALLERIA / 887-7710 • STA. LUCIA EAST GRAND MALL / 647-9354 • ROBINSON'S METRO EAST / 646-1721 • TIMOG / 926-7279 • SM CITY PAMPANGA / (045) 961-2150 • SM CITY MARILAO / (044) 933-2173 • SM FAIRVIEW / 935-2875 • SM CITY NORTH EDSA 920-3152 • GRAND CENTRAL / 346-6087 • L20 CIRCLE C / 928-0495 • TUTUBAN / 256-4000 • SM CITY CENTERPOINT / 715-6116 • HARRISON PLAZA / 526-5100 • GREENHILLS / 723-2129 • EVER COMMONWEALTH / 952-7339 • SM CITY LUCENA / (042) 373-4411 • ALLI MALL / 955-8995 • SM DASMARINAS (046) 432-3094 • MAKATI CINEMA SQUARE / 844-2129 • STA. LUCIA 2nd branch / 643-0995 • GREENBELT 1 / 815-1201 • SM CITY BATANGAS / 885-6357 • CORBY BLDG. LUIS / 634-2223 • CITY MALL, OLONGAPO / (047) 223-3851 • FOR KATIPUNAN / 434-9033 • SM SAN LAZARO / 786-2524 TO 25

NOW OPEN: SM CITY LIPA & MALL OF ASIA • SOON TO OPEN: MARABON CITY SQUARE

Give 3 phones,
3 lines with
SUN
Group Plan
999

Also available
SUN Group Plan 699

SUN GROUP PLAN 999	SUN GROUP PLAN 699
3 Free Phones, 3 Lines.	3 Free Phones, 3 Lines.
Nokia 1112 Monochrome Display with Backlight, Speaking Alarm Clock, Polyphonic and MP3 Grade Ringtones, Integrated Handsfree Speaker	LG KG220 Camera Phone w/ Multi-shot Feature
Nokia 2310 Colored Display	Motorola C261 Camera Phone
Monthly Service Fee: P699 only Discounted Daytime Call & Text Unlimited* (Only P233 per subscriber monthly) Plus 300 FREE Texts!	Monthly Service Fee: P999 only Discounted Call & Text Unlimited* (Only P233 per subscriber monthly) Plus 750 FREE Texts!

The perfect gift for the family this
Christmas. Get this great offer now!

- Only one person needs to subscribe to get all the lines.**
- Enjoy non-stop calling and texting with 24/7 Call & Text Unlimited.
- Shared Monthly Service Fee.

For local Sun-to-Sun calls and texts only.

24-month holding period. When applying for your postpaid line, bring a valid I.D. and your latest competitor bill. If competitor bill is not available, bring Proof of Billing and Proof of Income.

The Sun Shops: Metro Manila | SM Mall of Asia | Burke Plaza, Binondo | Robinsons Galleria | SM North Edsa | SM Megamall | SM Manila | Robinsons Manila | Park Square One | Robinsons Metro East | SM Fairview | SM Centerpoint | SM San Lazaro | SM Valenzuela | Greenhills | Shangri-la Plaza | Robinsons Cainta | Robinsons Place Pioneer | North Luzon | Robinsons Starmills | SM Maricao | SM Clark | SM Baguio | Robinsons Angeles | South Luzon | Robinsons Sta. Rosa | Robinsons Imus | Robinsons Dasmariñas | Robinsons Lipa | SM Bacoor | SM Molino | SM Southmall | Fillinvest Festival Mall | SM Bicutan | SM Lucena | Visayas | Robinsons Iloilo | Robinsons Cebu | Robinsons Bacolod | SM Cebu | Ayala Center Cebu | Mindanao | SM Davao | Gaisano Davao | Robinsons Cagayan de Oro

Hotline: 395-8000

SUN
CELLULAR
Better network, better value.



Dahil sa **TELEPWEDE!**
RELOADABLE PRE-PAID LANDLINE

NATIONWIDE ang maligayang tawagan ngayong Pasko!




TELEPWEDE!
RELOADABLE PRE-PAID LANDLINE

NATIONAL TELEBABA PROMO

Kaya magtelewede na! Call 171 to subscribe.

Reloadable in over 800,000 SMARTload partners at mga saking tindahan nationwide

Promo extended until January 31, 2007

Did You Know...

BEATLES producer George Martin, on hearing "Strawberry Fields Forever" for the first time: "John [stood] in front of me, strumming his guitar and singing those incredible opening lines. I was ... captivated. We recorded it more than once, eventually combining two completely different versions. I love the song to this day, but John told me years later that he was never satisfied with it. I felt I had let him down. I hope he has forgiven me."



"LITTLE MISS SUNSHINE"

A bonding of freaks

By Oliver M. Pulumbarit
Contributor

YOU CAN DEPEND ON YOUR RELATIVES, even if they're freaks. That's what "Little Miss Sunshine" gladly espouses, and it's not really subtle about it. But the film, a smart family road movie amalgamated with a timely satire on beauty pageants, knows when to be dramatic, insightful, and downright irreverent.

Combustible

It's easy to relate to this American family, the Hoovers, a well-meaning but divided bunch. Because each individual has a strong personality and distinct quirks, you just know it won't be long before the chafing bonds reveal themselves.

"Little Miss Sunshine" has a cast that quickly proves itself well-assembled and combustible, especially when the ensemble's first gathered together as a unit, during a meal. Richard (Greg Kinnear), the aspiring motivational speaker, quickly contrasts with his straightforward but supportive wife, Sheryl (Toni Collette). Grandpa (Alan Arkin), Richard's dad, is similarly direct, but is unapologetically rude and open about his vices (drugs and porn!). Still, he's trusted enough to behave around the two kids, who are immersed in their own worlds. Olive (Abigail Breslin, from "Signs"), a slightly chubby, bespectacled kid, believes she can win a real beauty contest, while her teen brother Dwayne (Paul Dano) has vowed to stay silent until he becomes an Air Force pilot.

To add to that potentially turbulent dynamic, the Hoovers are joined by Sheryl's brother, Frank (Steve Carell, "40-Year Old Virgin"), a broken-hearted gay man who recently at-

tempted to kill himself. But an opportunity for Olive to join the "Little Miss Sunshine" contest presents itself, so they're forced to drop everything. They all set off for California using their beat-up VW van, as money's becoming a problem. You just know that their cross-country trek will force long-hidden friction and some dissenting views to the surface, and some crucial discoveries will change how this particular family functions.

But it's mostly non-judgmental—a pleasant surprise. No matter how sardonic or enraged a family member gets, there's still that line they don't cross. There's optimism and complexity in the script by Michael Arndt; it doesn't state the obvious, but all his opposing voices ring true. The story captures universal, familial pains and struggles, and they're coherently told by director spouses Jonathan Dayton and Valerie Faris, who have worked on TV commercials, documentaries and music videos (Smashing Pumpkins, Janet Jackson, REM, etc.).

Not bad

"Little Miss Sunshine" is just special; it shows that when some dreams are dashed or when priorities unexpectedly shift, you can count on your relatives to assure you that things will be all right, even when they don't know any better. But don't expect sappy or cloyingly declarative conversations, because the real family bonding here happens in key scenes—the impromptu escape from a hospital, and onstage, while Rick James' old hit "Super Freak" plays during the talent portion of the competition. In those important moments, there's the realization that it's not too bad to have your very own set of "freaks" by your side, and rooting for you.

Lea tries coaching

From page G1

famous is easy; staying famous is hard."

To-do list

How can the genre prevent the rise of divas and non-talents? "Nothing can prevent that. Divas will [turn up], whatever happens," Lea asserted.

Before she can go into teaching full time, there are plenty of items on her to-do list.

"I'm finishing my album and [preparing] Christmas presents! Haay, there's never enough time, now that I have a child."

Lea recently recorded a duet with Julio Iglesias for his new album, "Romantic Classics." They didn't record together, though. "He did his part in Spain; I did mine in Manila," said Lea. "I was supervised by Ryan Cayabyab and [briefed by] Vic Valenciano, A&R director of Sony-BMG."



LEA with Philippine Idol Mau Marcelo

After the recording sessions, Julio finally met Lea in New York. "He was such a charming, lovely man," she said. "Funny and hand-

some, very engaging."

As for her new all-English studio album under Sony-BMG?

"It's a wonderful collection of ... love songs, mostly ... beautifully orchestrated and arranged," said Lea.

Siblings at work

Her brother Gerard, along with Ria Osorio and Marvin Querido, arranged several songs.

What is it like for him, working with his famous sister?

"It's always wonderful to work with a great artist, sister or not," Gerard said. There's perhaps a bit of mental telepathy going on. I think we also breathe at the same time, and we have the same sense of pace for musical passages. That makes it fun."

Old Sampaguita films ...

From page G1

charge a 20 percent marketing fee. After the cost of restoration and digitalization, Gloria and Nakpil would split profits equally.

"Restoration has cost Tony a lot of money," Nakpil said. "He has decided to do more work on the films, which originated from Betacam or U-matic tapes derived from the original 16mm. He's hoping to go full blast on distribution next year."

Nakpil has another project up her sleeve: She is in the process of digitalizing about 200 Sampaguita films.

"I'm financing this," she said, "in preparation for the eventual demise of my 16mm's." Digitalization is being done by the outfit that worked on the movies of Fernando Poe Jr., according to Nakpil. "I can't name of the outfit; they gave me a special price."

Sampaguita produced some 627 films in 35 years. Most of these movies were lost or destroyed. Nakpil has only 210 in her archive. She is bent on getting her hands on more, and on top of her list is the iconic "Roberta," which starred then child star Tessie Agana. Sampa-

guita produced it after a fire destroyed the studio in the '50s. Its phenomenal take at the tills enabled the Vera-Perezes to rebuild, and make the studio one of the biggest movie outfits throughout the '60s.

A few years back, Nakpil found about 20 Sampaguita movies in storage in Honolulu. The films had had a theatrical run there but were not returned to the Philippines.

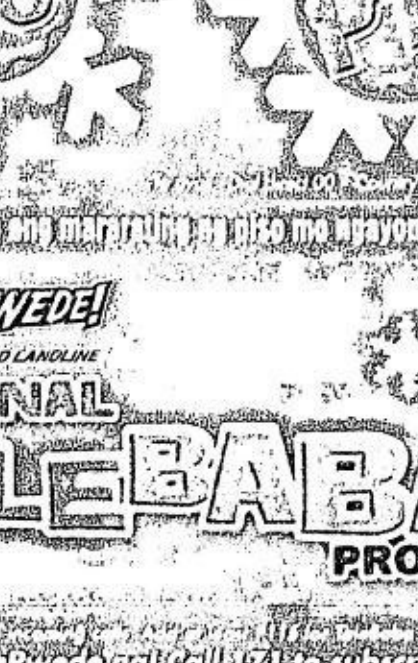
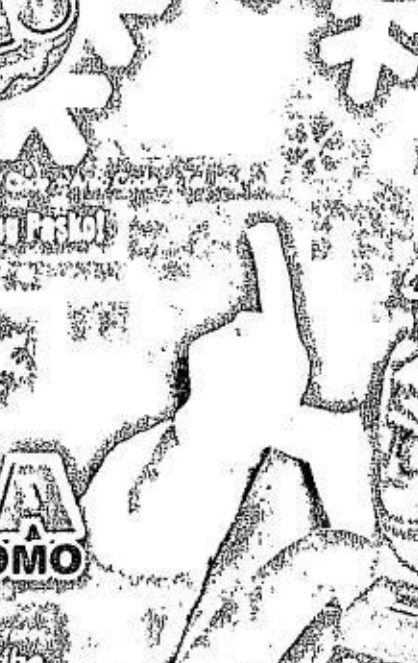
"I did not have the funds to bring them back [either]," rued Nakpil. The movies, which included "Eva Fonda, 16," "Tatlong Kasalanan" and "Rebecca Marasigan" were eventually burned in Honolulu, she said.

Her passion for finding and restoring the movies of the studio that her parents built has kept Nakpil on top of a priceless legacy that depicts an aspect of a popular culture that has enriched the Filipino soul. Celebrating that legacy is a book, called "Legacy," written by INQUIRER's Nestor U. Torre, that the Vera-Perezes are set to launch in May next year to coincide with the 90th birthday of Sampaguita matriarch Azucena Vera-Perez.

Dahil sa **TELEPWEDE!**
RELOADABLE PRE-PAID LANDLINE

GLOBAL ang Maligayang tawagan ngayong Pasko!



TELEPWEDE!
RELOADABLE PRE-PAID LANDLINE

NATIONAL TELEBABA PROMO

Kaya magtelewede na! Call 171 to subscribe.

Reloadable in over 800,000 SMARTload partners at mga saking tindahan nationwide

Promo extended until January 31, 2007

Dahil sa TELEPWEDE!
RELOADABLE PRE-PAID LANDLINE

ANYWHERE ang maligayang tawagan ngayong Pasko!

CELLPHONE
P6.50
per min

Talagang malaya ang mararating sa piso mo ngayong Pasko!

TELEPWEDE!
RELOADABLE PRE-PAID LANDLINE

NATIONAL TELEBABA PROMO

Kay magandang telebaba na! Call 1-111-1111 to subscribe

Powered by **PWEDE!**

Reloadable in over 800,000 SMARTLoad partners at mga sukling tindahan nationwide

Promo extended until January 31, 2007

Before 'Borat,' there was Elwood's 'Burong Talangka'

"BORAT" IS BRILLIANT, BUT THERE ARE AT least two jokes in Sacha Baron Cohen's hit comedy that sounded familiar—because we heard them first in Filipino movies.

In a dinner sequence with affluent Southerners, the Kazakhstani reporter confused "retired" with "retarded." The malapropism was used in Mark Meily's "Crying Ladies" in 2003.

In the same skit, Borat handed to her hostess a bag of poop. In the 1975 movie, "Lollipop and Roses at Burong Talangka," Nora Aunor resorted to the same scatological bit—giving a paper bag of crap to activists.

Elwood Perez, "Lollipop" director, enthuses, "After watching 'Borat,' I told younger friends that I had cracked a similar joke onscreen three decades ago. They were incredulous."

Lea on high

At the closing ceremonies of the 15th Asian Games at the Khalifa Stadium in Doha, Qatar, Filipina Broadway star Lea Salonga sang "Triumph of the One" while atop a towering stage made to look like a torch.

It looked daunting—at over 20 feet high—and dizzying, but Lea, clad in a Rajo Laurel original, was unruffled. She told mom Ligaya: "I had fun. I didn't look down: I just kept staring at the king!"

Take her higher

"I'd like to make higher-level movies. Di basta drama o comedy."

That's Rufa Mae Quinto speaking. The singer-actress also says she'd like to work on said dream movies with Dolphy and Vic Sotto.

Overall, she's proud of where she is. "I'm happy that, at my young age, I've made movies na tumatak sa isipan ng mga tao." Specifically, she is referring to her past starrer, "Booba."

"I like making people laugh. I want to inspire people. As long as you work hard, love what you're doing,

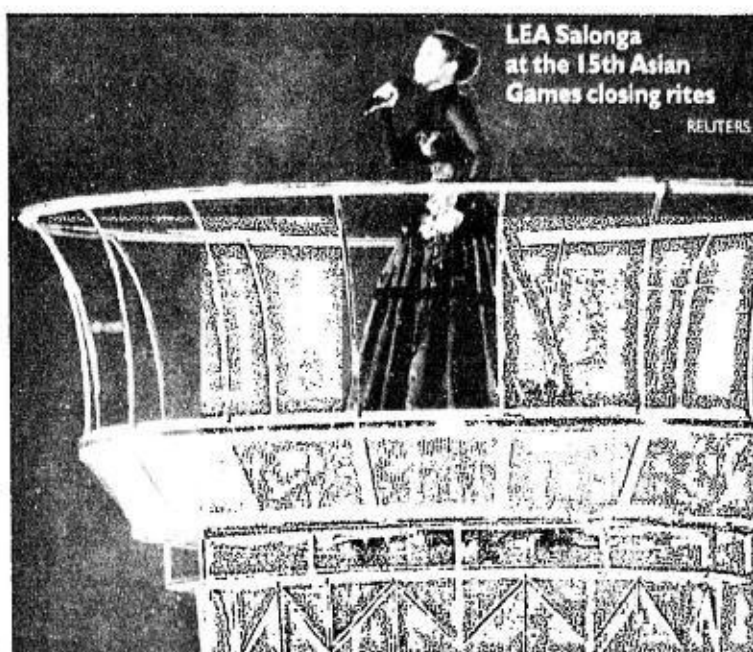


RACHEL WEISZ

and never stop dreaming, you will make it." Did she dream up her double-endorsement deal with Smart (and Talk N Text)?

Like a baby

Rachel Weisz says she read the script of "The Fountain," her latest outing that also stars Hugh Jackman, and became very emotional. "It's



LEA Salonga at the 15th Asian Games closing rites

REUTERS

one of the most exhilarating pieces of writing I've ever read. It was so thought-provoking, I sobbed like a baby after I finished it."

Kilmer on fashion

Val Kilmer star of "Déjà Vu," says he still dresses like a bum. "I don't have much of a sense of style, thought I got a lot of complimentary calls from friends back East



VAL KILMER

when I got onto People Magazine's Worst Dressed List. I think I was wearing a purple velour track suit in the photo and even I thought, wow, it takes some courage to wear that."

Loser wins

NEW YORK—Erik Chopin, who dropped 214 pounds (97 kilograms) to win NBC's



ERIK Chopin, "The Biggest Loser" champ

"The Biggest Loser," was prepared to undergo surgery to slim down before he was chosen for the weight-loss competition.

"That's how hopeless I felt," Chopin, a family man and deli owner from West Islip, New York, told The Associated Press in a phone interview Friday. "I'm so glad I didn't."

Chopin, 36, who weighed 407 pounds (185 kg) at the start of the reality show, said he had considered gastric band surgery to shrink his stomach.

Instead, he went to a weight-loss ranch in California to film the show with 49 other contestants. On the finale earlier this week, he weighed in at 193 pounds (87.5 kg) to win the title and the \$250,000 grand prize.

"It's surreal. I'm on top of the world," he told the AP. "I'm getting paid now for something I needed to do ... to get healthy." AP

Hoaxer, not Hilton

LOS ANGELES—Socialite Paris Hilton fell victim to a hoaxer who wrote a widely publicized Web posting in her name defending the "partying ethics" of her new friend, singer Britney Spears, Hilton's spokesman said on Friday.

But spokesman Elliot Mintz said whoever wrote the entry this week on Hilton's page on the popular social networking site MySpace.com "crafted a very nice piece and the sentiments that were expressed were extremely articulate."

The note defended Spears against criticism that she was neglecting her two young sons by embarking on a round of all-night clubbing. "Did [Paris] write that piece? No, she did not," Mintz said. "I have no idea who did. There are dozens and dozens of people that use the Web—it is a bit like the Wild West—somewhat uncontrollable." Reuters

A back-up Beyonce

NEW YORK — Beyonce Knowles says she becomes someone else when she is onstage, an alter ego she calls Sasha.

"I wouldn't like Sasha if I met her offstage," the 25-year-old singer-actress tells Parade magazine in its Dec. 17 issue. "Oh, no. She's too aggressive, too strong, too sassy, too sexy! I'm not her in real life at all. I'm not flirtatious and super-confident and fearless like her."

She adds, "I created my stage persona to protect myself, so that when I go home, I don't have to think about what it is I do. Sasha isn't me. The people around me know who I really am." AP

Just a job

NEW YORK—What is the biggest difference between kissing Matt Damon and kissing Brad Pitt? "One's a friend and one's my love," says Angelina Jolie, who co-stars with Damon in the upcoming drama "The Good Shepherd."



ANGELINA JOLIE

Jolie told Diane Sawyer in an interview that aired Friday on ABC's "Good Morning America."

"It's one of those things where it's like the least threatening person," the 31-year-old actress said. "Good luck to you guys, I hope it's not too awkward."

Said Damon, who co-starred with Pitt in the "Ocean's Eleven" and "Ocean's Twelve" movies: "It's weird. ... We all know each other." AP

Latest from Willie

Latest word from ABS-CBN on the Willie Revillame-Enrico Santos "misunderstanding": Willie was a no-show on his daily show, "Wowowee," for two days after the incident on Wednesday night because "had no voice on account of heavy workload (no sleep two days and nights straight)."

The two reportedly had a heated exchange during and immediately after the network's big Christmas presentation at the Meralco Theater.

Witnesses saw one of them being pushed off-stage by the other; and then the other confronting the one later.

And then Willie went "missing." Apparently, he finally issued a statement on Saturday saying something to the effect that, "We're Kapamilya—we're okay na."

RUSHES

Ganito kaligaya! Ganito ka-ningning! Ganito kadali!

TELEPWEDE!
RELOADABLE PRE-PAID LANDLINE

NATIONAL TELEBABA PROMO

Mag-load na sa over 800,000 SMARTLoad partners at mga sukling tindahan nationwide to avail of these Telebaba rates ngayong Paskuhan!

SMART LOAD

Powered by **PWEDE!**

Promo extended until January 31, 2007

Classic Christmas story on HBO

LATE CHRISTMAS EVE, A DOUBTING young boy boards a mysterious train—the Polar Express—that takes him on an extraordinary journey to the North Pole.

When the boy arrives, Santa Claus offers him

any gift he desires but he asks only for a bell from the harness of Santa's reindeer.

The bell, lost on his way home, is found under the Christmas tree. When he shakes it, the bell makes the most beautiful sound he's ever heard.



"The Polar Express," which reunites Academy Award winning duo Tom Hanks and director Robert Zemeckis, is an inspiring adventure based on the classic Christmas story by Chris Von Allsburg.

The movie airs Dec. 24, 9 p.m., on HBO.

'Ant Bully'

Warner Home Video brings "The Ant Bully" on DVD.

The animated film, which features the voices of Julia Roberts, Nicolas Cage, Meryl Streep and Paul Giamatti, tells a heartwarming story of a 10-year-old Lucas Nickle who takes out his frustration on the innocent anthill in his yard.

Using a magic potion, the ants retaliate by shrinking Lucas down to ant size and sentencing him to live like an ant in their colony.

‘Superman Returns’

Bryan Singer's "Superman Returns," starring Brandon Routh, Kate Bosworth and Kevin Spacey, is now available on DVD.

After five years of absence, Superman sees the changes in his adopted planet.

Lois Lane now has a son, a fiancé and a Pulitzer for "Why The World Doesn't Need Superman" while Lex Luhtor has a plan that will destroy billions of lives.

**MAKISIG MORALES**

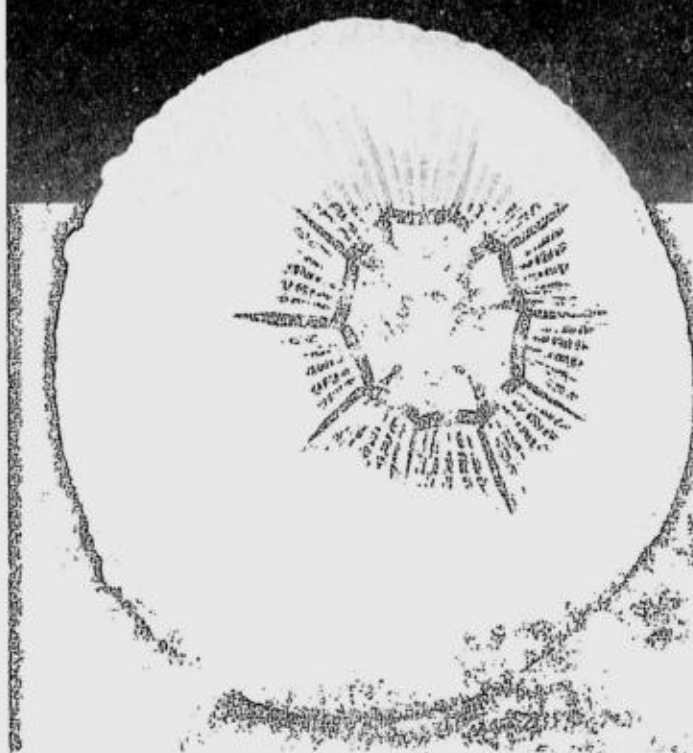
Party carols

Makisig Morales, also known as Super Inggo, sings happy tunes in Star Records' "X'mas Non Stop Party Party Mix."

Among the songs in the album are "Tito Tita" and "Superhero," the song behind the daily series "Super Inggro."

The album also contains songs from various artists.

**Served fresh,
monthly.**



Available at all major badminton courts nationwide

SHANGHAI CINEPLEX

1

TENACIOUS D
MTRCB R-13
12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00

2

THE NATIVITY
MTRCB GP
1:20, 3:30, 5:40, 7:50, 10:00

3

HAPPY FEET
MTRCB GP
2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00

4

CASINO ROYALE
MTRCB PG-13 128, 700
A GOOD YEAR
MTRCB PG-13 4:30, 10:00

PREMIERE THEATRE

THE PRODUCERS / RENT
MTRCB PG-13 1245, 616
MTRCB R-13 3:35, 9:00

Movies and schedules are subject to change without prior notice

Catch the Cineplex Special

Come and watch a fun-filled, side-splitting comedy of the record-breaking Broadway smash hit: "THE PRODUCERS" and one of the longest running shows on Broadway: "RENT" Both EXCLUSIVELY showing at the Shang Cineplex starting December 13, 2006
Ticket Price: P120.00

8th floor, Shangri-La Plaza Mall
EDSA corner Shaw Blvd., Mandaluyong City
Call 833-7851, loc. 171/170 or 833-2227
for more details.

 Shangri-La Plaza

GREENHILLS CINEMAS

THEATRE-MALL

Now Showing

1

SHAOLIN VS. EVIL DEAD

11:50, 2:10, 4:25
8:40, 9:00

PG-13

2

A GOOD YEAR

12:00, 2:30, 5:00
7:30, 10:00

PG-13

PROMENADE

Now Showing

3

**DECK THE HALLS
/THE NATIVITY**

11:40, 1:50, 4:00
/6:00, 8:20, 10:35

GP

4

TENACIOUS D

11:20, 1:35, 3:50
6:05, 8:20, 10:35

PG13

5

HAPPY FEET

11:00, 1:15, 3:35
5:55, 8:15, 10:35

GP

TO GET PAGES 1-5, 11-15, 18-19, 21-22, 24-25, 27-28, 30-31, 33-34, 36-37, 39-40, 42-43, 45-46, 48-49, 51-52, 54-55, 57-58, 60-61, 63-64, 66-67, 69-70, 72-73, 75-76, 78-79, 81-82, 84-85, 87-88, 90-91, 93-94, 96-97, 99-100, 102-103, 105-106, 108-109, 111-112, 114-115, 117-118, 120-121, 123-124, 126-127, 129-130, 132-133, 135-136, 138-139, 141-142, 144-145, 147-148, 150-151, 153-154, 156-157, 159-160, 162-163, 165-166, 168-169, 171-172, 174-175, 177-178, 180-181, 183-184, 186-187, 189-190, 192-193, 195-196, 198-199, 201-202, 204-205, 207-208, 210-211, 213-214, 216-217, 219-220, 222-223, 225-226, 228-229, 231-232, 234-235, 237-238, 240-241, 243-244, 246-247, 249-250, 252-253, 255-256, 258-259, 261-262, 264-265, 267-268, 270-271, 273-274, 276-277, 279-280, 282-283, 285-286, 288-289, 291-292, 294-295, 297-298, 300-301, 303-304, 306-307, 309-310, 312-313, 315-316, 318-319, 321-322, 324-325, 327-328, 330-331, 333-334, 336-337, 339-340, 342-343, 345-346, 348-349, 351-352, 354-355, 357-358, 360-361, 363-364, 366-367, 369-370, 372-373, 375-376, 378-379, 381-382, 384-385, 387-388, 390-391, 393-394, 396-397, 399-400, 402-403, 405-406, 408-409, 411-412, 414-415, 417-418, 420-421, 423-424, 426-427, 429-430, 432-433, 435-436, 438-439, 441-442, 444-445, 447-448, 450-451, 453-454, 456-457, 459-460, 462-463, 465-466, 468-469, 471-472, 474-475, 477-478, 480-481, 483-484, 486-487, 489-490, 492-493, 495-496, 498-499, 501-502, 504-505, 507-508, 510-511, 513-514, 516-517, 519-520, 522-523, 525-526, 528-529, 531-532, 534-535, 537-538, 540-541, 543-544, 546-547, 549-550, 552-553, 555-556, 558-559, 561-562, 564-565, 567-568, 570-571, 573-574, 576-577, 579-580, 582-583, 585-586, 588-589, 591-592, 594-595, 597-598, 600-601, 603-604, 606-607, 609-610, 612-613, 615-616, 618-619, 621-622, 624-625, 627-628, 630-631, 633-634, 636-637, 639-640, 642-643, 645-646, 648-649, 651-652, 654-655, 657-658, 660-661, 663-664, 666-667, 669-670, 672-673, 675-676, 678-679, 681-682, 684-685, 687-688, 690-691, 693-694, 696-697, 699-700, 702-703, 705-706, 708-709, 711-712, 714-715, 717-718, 720-721, 723-724, 726-727, 729-730, 732-733, 735-736, 738-739, 741-742, 744-745, 747-748, 750-751, 753-754, 756-757, 759-760, 762-763, 765-766, 768-769, 771-772, 774-775, 777-778, 780-781, 783-784, 786-787, 789-790, 792-793, 795-796, 798-799, 801-802, 804-805, 807-808, 810-811, 813-814, 816-817, 819-820, 822-823, 825-826, 828-829, 831-832, 834-835, 837-838, 840-841, 843-844, 846-847, 849-850, 852-853, 855-856, 858-859, 861-862, 864-865, 867-868, 870-871, 873-874, 876-877, 879-880, 882-883, 885-886, 888-889, 891-892, 894-895, 897-898, 900-901, 903-904, 906-907, 909-910, 912-913, 915-916, 918-919, 921-922, 924-925, 927-928, 930-931, 933-934, 936-937, 939-940, 942-943, 945-946, 948-949, 951-952, 954-955, 957-958, 960-961, 963-964, 966-967, 969-970, 972-973, 975-976, 978-979, 981-982, 984-985, 987-988, 990-991, 993-994, 996-997, 999-1000

MUSIC MUSEUM

THEATRE-MALL

DEC 27, 2009	* Kyia * Give Love On Christmas Day	8:00 PM
DEC 28, 2009	Truetha Mofofy Gugi Florenza	8:30 PM

EVERY MONDAY

DEC. 23, 2008

DANCE NIGHT

Mishka Adams

7:00 PM

9:00 PM

FOR INQUIRIES PLS CALL 722-4532 LOC 116

FOR INQUIRIES & RESERVATION PLS CALL 721-5723 OR 721-0411



Kapuso, Sagot namin ang Pasko ninyo!

Get a chance to win
Noche Buena
and Media Noche feasts!
And the P1,000,000.00
Grand Prize!

Be the first
KAPUSO MILYONARYO
of 2007

Watch GMA Telebabad
from December 18 - 29 and win!

HOW TO JOIN:

Watch GMA Telebabad's
Captain Barbell, Atlantika,
Bakekang and A Rosy Life

Spot the logo of
Kapuso, Sagot Namin Ang Pasko Ninyo!

Text your answers to
KAPUSO <space> name of program
Send to 4627 (for all networks
P250/text for Globe, TM, Smart, Talk N' Text
P200/text for Sun Cellular)

For the Dec. 18-22, 2006 draws
there will be 10 daily winners
for Noche Buena Feast

For Dec. 25-29, 2006 draws,
there will be 10 daily winners
for Media Noche Feast

The 10 daily winners will be announced on
A Rosy Life (for Monday-Thursday winners)
the following night (Tuesday-Friday)
and on StarTalk (for Friday winners)
the following day (Saturday).

All text entries automatically qualify for
the P1,000,000.00 Grand Draw.

All text entries automatically qualify for
the grand draw on SOP
on Dec. 31, 2006
for the Electronic Draw of the
P1,000,000.00 Grand Prize.

GMA

*Per DTI-NCR Permit # 5-40-1163-17-004

ENTERTAINMENT

Text us your feedback:
inquirer ent name/age/city/message
to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)



EMME Tomimbang with her award. RUDY ESPERAS

Hawaii has 'Pinay Oprah'

By Cora Lucas

ONE UNDERSTANDS EMME TOMIMBANG's pride when she says she's considered Hawaii's answer to Oprah Winfrey. Interestingly, the "Queen of Talk's" equivalent in that part of the world—though born and bred in the Aloha state—is a true-blue Filipino.

"My father was a *sakada* from Siquijor who came to Hawaii in 1931," relates Emme. "He became a television announcer in a Visayan program called 'Maligayang

TAKE
FIVE



FIGHT LEUKEMIA

Former Bee Gee Robin Gibb performs during a general rehearsal for the Jose Carreras Gala in Leipzig, East Germany, last weekend. Carreras initiated the show to raise funds to fight leukemia.

AP

No funds for celebs

BAGUIO CITY—THE annual Baguio parade of stars that has launched the Metro Manila Film Festival for the last two years hit a snag after the city refused to release P300,000 to cover honoraria for participating stars.

The parade finally pushed through on Friday, although it was scheduled the day before. Celebrity couple Cesar Montano and Sunshine Cruz, Sen. Lito Lapid and his son, Pampanga Gov. Mark Lapid, and actresses Ana Capri and Michelle Esteves toured local malls Thursday morning.

On Wednesday, actor Ramon "Ching-goy" Alonso urged acting Vice Mayor Leandro Yangor to allocate funds for the

NO FUNDS/H4

LIPO JET

NO diet... exercise... surgery... sweat... needle... thermal wrapping...

Always first in giving you WEIGHT LOSS

SERVICES OFFERED: Weight Loss; Diamond Peel; Mesotherapy; Filler; Botulinum Toxin; Facial; Spa; Salon & Nail; Plastic Surgery Services

Roces 373 3365 • SM Megamall 635 2577 • SM Fairview 937 7453
SM San Lazaro 741 7792 • Farmers 995 0983 • Market
Market 886 7588 • Walter Mart 844 8615 • Glorietta 2 894 1741
Robinsons Metro East 681 4712 • Metropoint Mall 832 5527

ARANETA CENTER

Gateway MALL Farmers Plaza

THE ONLY CINEPLEX IN THE COUNTRY Gateway Cineplex 10

SPIRIT TRAP 1:40 / 3:40 / 5:40 / 7:40 / 9:40	TENACIOUS 'D' 12:30 / 2:45 / 5:00 / 7:15 / 9:30	SHAOLIN vs EVIL DEAD 12:50 / 3:00 / 5:10 / 7:20 / 9:30
THE NATIVITY 12:10 / 2:30 / 4:50 / 7:10 / 9:30	REYNA A GOOD YEAR 7:10 / 9:40	HAPPY FEET 12:10 / 2:30 / 4:50 / 7:10 / 9:30
ALL THE KING'S MEN 1:40 / 4:20 / 7:00 / 9:40	CASINO ROYALE 4:10 / 7:00 / 9:50	INANG YAYA 1:00 / 3:10 / 5:20 / 7:30 / 9:40

For ticket inquiries, please call TicketNet at 911-5555 or log on to www.ticketnet.com.ph

ARANETA COLISEUM

SPIRIT TRAP 12:40 / 2:40 / 4:40 / 6:40 / 8:40	CASINO ROYALE 12:00 / 2:50 / 5:40 / 8:30	TENACIOUS 'D' 1:20 / 3:40 / 6:00 / 8:20
SHAOLIN vs EVIL DEAD 12:05 / 3:35 / 6:05 / 8:05	KAMASUTRA 3 12:10 / 2:10 / 4:10 / 6:10 / 8:10	

Dec. 20 4:35 pm ALASKA vs WELCOAT 7:20 pm RED BULL vs GINEBRA
Dec. 29, 30, Jan. 1, 2 & 3 - 4:00 pm & 7:30 pm

CHRISTMAS GIFTS ROCK!

Give love ngayong Pasko with a ringtone regalo!

Top Holiday Ringback Tones

TITLE	ARTIST	SONG CODE
Winter Wonderland	Bing Crosby	EA271
Sana Ngayong Pasko	Sharon Cuneta	SA331
Pasko Na Sinta Ko	Lea Salonga	SA457
Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer	Jackson 5	KA468
Give Love On Christmas Day	Jackson 5	KA470
Santa Claus Is Coming To Town	Jackson 5	KA464
Pamasko	True Faith	EA260
Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas	Carpenters	KA457
Sleigh Ride	Carpenters	KA450
Merry Christmas Darling	Carpenters	KA458

To send a ringback tone as a gift, text GIVE <11-digit Globe no.> <CODE> to 2332
Ex. GIVE 09171234567 EA271 to 2332 * P 15 for 15 days
To download, text <CODE> to 2332 * Ex. EA271 to 2332

Top Pasko Ringtones

SONG TITLE	KEYWORD
Joy To The World	joyworld
It's Beginning To Look A Lot Like Christmas	look
Jingle Bells	jinglebel
Rocking Around The Christmas Tree	rockxmas
The First Noel	1stnoel
We Wish You A Merry Christmas	wewishu
O Come All Ye Faithful	ocomel
Deck The Halls	deckdhal
Oh Christmas Tree	oxmastre
I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus	sawmom

To send a monotone as a gift, text N <KEYWORD> <11-digit Globe no.> to 2375
Ex. N JINGLEBEL 09171234567 to 2375 * P 15 per monotone
To download, text N <KEYWORD> to 2375 * Ex. N JINGLEBEL to 2375

To send a polytone as a gift, text P <KEYWORD> <11-digit Globe no.> to 2375
Ex. P JINGLEBEL 09171234567 to 2375 * P 20 per polytone
To download, text P <KEYWORD> to 2375 * Ex. P JINGLEBEL to 2375

Top Cheery Christmas Greetings

Pass these holiday greetings on to your friends!

KEYWORDS

xmas1	xmas3	xmas5	xmas7	xmas9
xmas2	xmas4	xmas6	xmas8	xmas10

To download, text <KEYWORD> to 2375 Ex. xmas1 to 2375 * P 2.50 per text

Top Holiday Trivia Talkies!

Spread some Christmas spirit with these holiday trivia

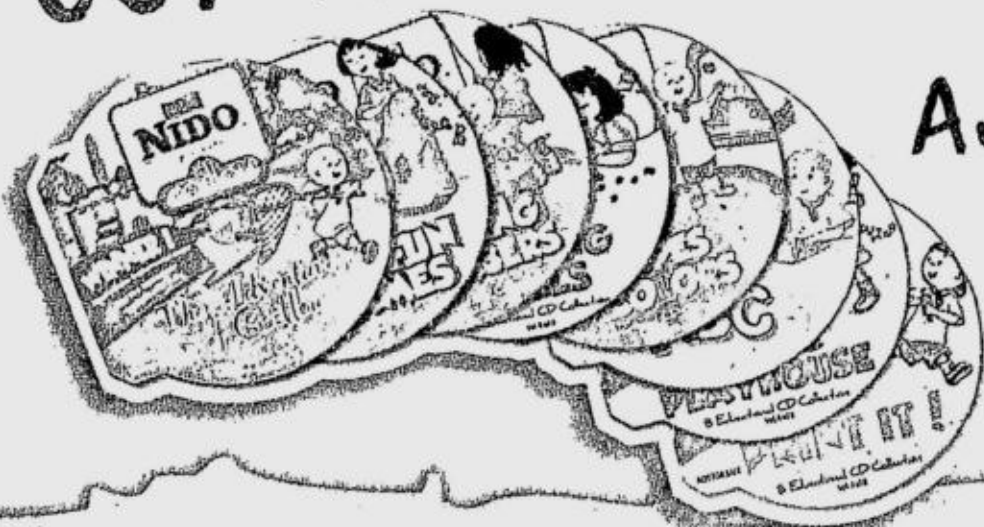
- To send Xmas Talkies as a gift, text SEND PASKO <11-digit Globe no.> to 2375, P 5.00 per send.
- To hear Xmas Talkies, text HEAR PASKO to 2375.
- To get a daily subscription of Xmas Talkies, text ON TALKIES PASKO to 2375.

*Rates: P 2.50/text; P 5.00/call

Text XMAS to 2375 for more Christmas downloads!

ang lakas mo sa **Globe**

Get FREE



Caillou
Award-Winning
Educational CDs
from the

Nestle
NIDO
Parenting
Series
High-quality educational tools

'Pinay Oprah'

From page H1

Araw. It's interesting that I followed in his footsteps."

Graduating from the University of Hawaii with a bachelor's degree in Secondary Education, Emme made a detour from plans to become a teacher or high school counselor to help her father run KISA, the first Filipino radio station in the US.

She was keen about working on a career in media. She remembers tagging along with her dad at the radio station. At 10, she already had a show called "Teenage Corner."

As KISA's "Morning Girl," Emme played Filipino rock music while broadcasting in English. She moved on to become a reporter on the 6 o'clock news at KITV and, eventually, anchor of the 10 p.m. news. She later joined Channel 2 as the "Island Style" reporter and morning

news anchor.

Emme is now considered a veteran in radio and TV broadcasting, with over 30 years media experience behind her. She has a one-hour TV show—"Emme's Island Moments"—aired four, five times a year that runs in the fashion of "The Barbara Walters Special" and the "The Oprah Winfrey Show." Started in 1993, it discusses life in Hawaii, guests visiting celebrities and engages them in an exchange of opinions on certain issues.

"Last year, I devoted [the programming] to my heritage," says Emme, referring to the two-hour documentary she was tasked to produce by the Hawaii Filipino Centennial Commission. "In a way, the entire island got a window to the Filipino community

PINAY/H4

"Ilarde's masterpiece.....strikingly original." SENSESOFCINEMA.COM



Showing at ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD GALLERIA

December 13 - 19

For inquiries, call 632-9116 / 395-2188 locs. 230/240. For block bookings, text 0917-8211093

Nestle
NIDO

Parenting Series

High-quality educational tools

exclusively presents

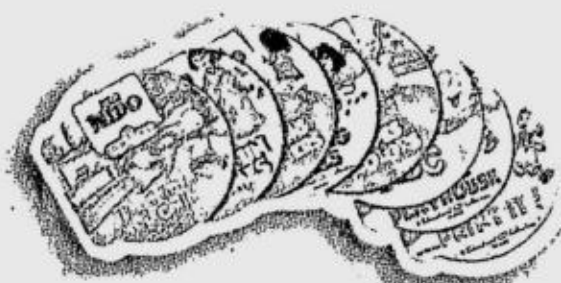


- the award-winning educational series
- used as a teaching tool in the US and Canada

Give your child the learning edge with the NIDO Parenting Series' first collection of award-winning educational CD-ROMs

FREE CD

with every 900g can of NIDO FORTIFIED, NIDO 1+ and NIDO 3+



Collect all 8 CDs now!

Watch out as NIDO brings Caillou to a supermarket near you!



MMTA
METRO MANILA
THEATERS ASSOCIATION
MOVIE GUIDE
NOW SHOWING

WORLD CINEMA 1000h TENACIOUS - D 2000h THE NATIVITY STORY 3000h HAPPY FEET 4000h CASINO ROYAL 007/A GOOD YEAR	Maragana CINEMA (Pasig) tel 833-3290 / 833-3274 1 SHADLIN 2 VS. EVIL DEAD 2 SPIRIT TRAP 3 KAMAZUTRA
Center Mall Cinema Baguio Center Mall, Maguysay Avenue (Baguio City) tel (047) (444)3461 1 ANG PAMANA 2 PITONG DALAGITA	Jade Cinema (Angeles City) tel (045) 887-5001 to 03 1 ZU WARRIOR 2 SCHOOL FOR SCOUNDRELS 3 THE MARINE 4 INANG YAYA
Cinema 2000 Waltermart Malati Waltermart Center, China Rocas Ave. cor. Adriana Armas Pineda Plaza, Malati City Tel 815-4224 / 815-4216 1 CASINO ROYAL 007 2 HAPPY FEET 3 THE NATIVITY STORY 4 SPIRIT TRAP	Centre Plaza Cinema (Balanga, Bataan) tel (047) 237-7907 1 THE MARINE 2 PITONG DALAGITA
starmall (Mandaluyong) tel. 7260150 3 SHADLIN VS. EVILDEAD - 2 4 000h DIGITAL SPIRIT TRAP 5 RESERVED	metropolis www.clicktheatry.com.ph (ALABANG) tel. 8504285, 9433994 1 MAKAMUNDO 2 KAMASUTRA - 3 3 ZU WARRIOR 4 HUWAG KANG LILINGON
THEATRES 16 Pacific Mall Corporation Pasig City tel (045) 600-1021 1 CASINO ROYAL 007 2 ANG PAMANA 3 FLAG OF OUR FATHER	Cinema 2000 Waltermart (Cebu) tel (035) 545-1353 1 FEAST 2 THE MARINE / DECK THE HALLS 3 FLAG OF OUR FATHER 4 RESERVED
PACIFIC MALL CINEMAGIC Pacific Mall Lucena Tel (043) 000-0271 1 THE MARINE 2 TEXAS CHAINSAW MASSACRE 3 RESERVED 4 RESERVED	Cinema 2000 Cinemagix (Urdaneta) tel (045) 568-6771 1 BARANG 2 INANG YAYA 3 CASINO ROYAL 007 JAMES BOND
Filinvest (Muntinlupa) tel 850-3571 or 72 1 TENACIOUS - D 2 THE NATIVITY STORY 3 SHADLIN VS. EVILDEAD - 2 4 HAPPY FEET 5 SPIRIT TRAP 6 CASINO ROYAL 007 7 INANG YAYA 8 REYNA 9 KAMASUTRA - 3 10 HUWAG KANG LILINGON	Cinema 2000 Metrotown (Tarlac) tel (045) 982-1229 1 ANG PAMANA 2 THE RETURN 3 CASINO ROYAL 007 JAMES BOND 4 BORAT
Blue Wave Samal Highway cor. Mayor Gil Fernandez Street, Sta. Nita, Marikina City tel 541837 1 THE NATIVITY 2 THE RETURN 3 HAPPY FEET 4 RESERVED	Cinema 2000 Waltermart (Pasig) tel (045) 795-3320 1 HAPPY FEET 2 ANG PAMANA 3 FLAG OF OUR FATHER / THE MARINE
Super Cinerama Isetan Cinerama Complex Recto tel 733-4228 1 SHADLIN 2 VS. EVIL DEAD 2 TENACIOUS - D 3 MAKAMUNDO 4 THE RETURN 5 CASINO ROYAL 007 JAMES BOND	Cinema 2000 Waltermart (Gapan) tel (044) 4867736 1 CASINO ROYAL 007 JAMES BOND 2 INANG YAYA
MARKETPLACE Mandaluyong tel 533-3851 / 533-3856 1 FLAG OF OUR FATHER 2 THE BANQUET 3 MAKAMUNDO 4 RESERVED	Lianas Cinema (Pasig) tel 640-4748 1 MAKAMUNDO 2 FLAG OF OUR FATHERS
Blue Wave 1000h SHADLIN 2 VS. EVIL DEAD 2000h TENACIOUS - D 3000h MAKAMUNDO 4000h THE RETURN 5000h CASINO ROYAL 007 JAMES BOND	Lianas Cinema (Alibang) tel 850-1276 1 MILLION DOLLAR BABY 2 MAKAMUNDO 3 PARAISO SA GUBAT 4 THE COVENANT
Fieta World Mall (Lipa) tel (043) 981-8790 1 MAKAMUNDO 2 HAPPY FEET 3 THE RETURN 4 STEP UP	Lianas MovieCity (Cebu) tel (049) 545-7202 1 FEAST 2 DARK DANCERS 3 FLAG OF OUR FATHERS 4 MAKAMUNDO 5 TEXAS CHAINSAW MASSACRE
MOVIES / SCHEDULES / PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE	Berna Cinema (Bacloran) tel 879-2030 / 879-2029 1 MAKAMUNDO 2 SNAKE ON THE PLANE

ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD CINEMAS MOVIE GUIDE



CINEMA ACCESS
635-5555
FOR ALL BRANCHES

www.robinsonsmovieworld.com

MOVIES/SCHEDULES/PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

GALLERIA

632-9116

1 CASINO ROYALE • THX 1:00 4:00 7:00 10:00	6 SPIRIT TRAP 12:40 3:00 5:20 7:40 10:00
2 HAPPY FEET 12:00 2:30 5:00 7:30 10:00	7 THE NATIVITY STORY 12:30 2:50 5:10 7:30 9:50
3 SA ILALIM NG COGON 12:00 1:50 3:40 5:30 7:20 9:10	8 REYNA 12:20 2:45 5:10 7:35 10:00
4 SHAOLIN VS. EVIL DEAD 2 1:00 3:15 5:30 7:45 10:00	9 BORAT 12:30 2:35 A GOOD YEAR 5:00 7:30 10:00
5 TENACIOUS D 1:30 3:35 5:40 7:45 9:50	10 KAMA SUTRA 3 12:00 2:00 4:00 6:00 8:00 10:00

ERMITA

536-7809 to 12

1 TENACIOUS D 12:35 2:50 5:05 7:25 9:50	5 SPIRIT TRAP 12:35 2:50 5:05 7:25 9:50
2 REYNA 12:00 1:50 3:40 THE NATIVITY STORY 6:00 8:00 10:00	6 SHAOLIN VS. EVIL DEAD 2 12:35 2:50 5:05 7:25 9:50
3 HAPPY FEET 11:00 1:10 3:20 5:30 7:40 9:50	7 KAMA SUTRA 3 12:35 2:50 5:05 7:25 9:50
4 CASINO ROYALE 11:00 1:40 4:20 7:00 9:50	

METRO EAST

882-9193 • 882-8199

1 REYNA 1:00 3:00 5:00 7:00 9:00	5 TENACIOUS D 11:50 2:10 4:30 6:50 9:10
2 HAPPY FEET 11:05 1:35 4:05 6:35 9:05	6 SPIRIT TRAP 11:50 2:10 4:30 6:50 9:10
3 SHAOLIN VS. EVIL DEAD 2 11:30 1:55 4:20 6:45 9:10	7 CASINO ROYALE 12:30 3:20 6:10 9:00
4 THE NATIVITY STORY 11:50 2:10 4:30 6:50 9:10	8 KAMA SUTRA 3 12:50 2:50 4:50 6:50 9:00

NOVALICHES

835-2241 • 835-2224 • 34

1 CASINO ROYALE	3 SHAOLIN VS. EVIL DEAD 2
2 HAPPY FEET	4 REYNA

CITISQUARE MALABON

288-2578

PIONEER

337-5378

1 MAKAMUNDO	1 TENACIOUS D
2 REYNA	2 HAPPY FEET
3 RESERVE	3 SHAOLIN VS. EVIL DEAD 2
4 RESERVE	4 SPIRIT TRAP

BORAT



STILL SHOWING at
ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD GALLERIA

MTRCB
Rating:
R-18

STA. ROSA

(049) 837-0907

LIPA

(043) 757-3664
(043) 312-5870

1 FLAGS OF OUR FATHERS	1 HAPPY FEET
2 SANTA CLAUSE 3	2 THE RETURN
3 MY FIRST WEDDING	3 SANTA CLAUSE 3
4 DECK THE HALLS	4 STEP UP

DASMARINAS

(046) 852-2125
(046) 416-4332

ANGELES

(045) 882-2346

1 FEAST	1 THE MARINE
2 ANG PAMANA: THE INHERITANCE	2 ZU WARRIORS
3 A GOOD YEAR	3 SCHOOL FOR SCOUNDRELS
4 HAPPY FEET	4 MEE-SHEE

IMUS

(046) 875-3638
(046) 474-8186

STARMILLS

(045) 875-1922
(045) 931-5270

1 HAPPY FEET	1 HAPPY FEET
2 DECK THE HALLS	2 MEE-SHEE
3 FEAST	3 REYNA
4 REYNA	4 THE RETURN
	5 FRAGILE
	6 THE MARINE

BACOLOD

(034) 441-0453
(034) 441-0458

ILOILO

(033) 336-8070

1 FRAGILE	1 FRAGILE
2 ZU WARRIORS	2 THE NATIVITY STORY
3 HAPPY FEET	3 HAPPY FEET
4 CASINO ROYALE	4 REYNA
5 SANTA CLAUSE 3	
6 REYNA	



The
Perfect Gift
All Year Round

A Pre Paid Movie Pass to the Hottest Seats in town.

Get Special discounts for volume purchases!

For marketing and events/reservations please call Marketing Services Department at 395-2188 locs. 230 and 240



movietime
SHOWTIME
Your life as a movie

SHARE A MOVIE WITH A LOVED ONE BIG MOVIES • BIG STARS • BIG SHOWS • BIG EVENTS

movietime exclusive presents



Meet Nick Naylor, the chief spokesman of the Academy for Tobacco Studies, whose job is to be in favor to smokers and cigarette makers. Usually confronted by conservative lawmakers (who legislate on putting poison labels on every pack), Naylor resists the agenda by devising ways to shut up cancer patients to speak against smoking and by enlisting an A-List Hollywood director to make smoking "cool" in movies. But at the end of the day, the curiosity of his son about his job makes Naylor think another perspective for their future.

WARNING: Watching this movie is not dangerous to your health.

NOW SHOWING AT SM MALL OF ASIA

MTRCB Rating: R-13

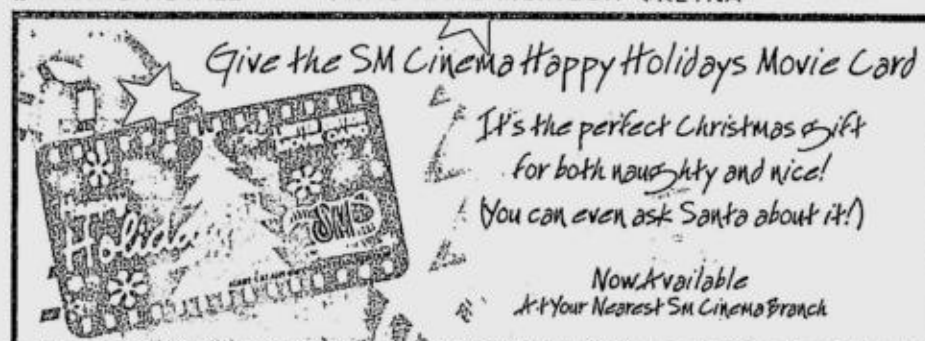


OFFICIAL MEDIA PARTNER:

96.3WROCK

Exclusively at SM Mall of Asia • SM San Lazaro • Exclusively at The Block (SM N. Edsa)

AN INCONVENIENT TRUTH	METRO MANILA	GRIDIRON GANG
SM MALL OF ASIA 556-0104 IMAX HAPPY FEET IN 2D 10:40AM 4:45PM 7:05PM 9:25PM Malinee Fee- P200 Pimatima Fee- P250 T-REX IN 3D 1:00PM 2:15PM 3:30PM Admission Price P200 1: CASINO ROYALE 2: SPIRIT TRAP 3: SHAOLIN VS. EVIL DEAD 4: THE RETURN/ 5: THE NATIVITY 6: THANK YOU FOR SMOKING 7: BARCELONA 8: PREMIERE CINEMA 9: TENACIOUS D 10: CENTERSTAGE 11: HAPPY FEET 12: PODIUM 13: CINEMA 1 14: TENACIOUS D 15: CINEMA 2 16: A GOOD YEAR 17: 633-8976	SM MEGACINEMA 633-1901 1: THE NATIVITY 2: SHAOLIN VS. EVIL DEAD 3: CASINO ROYALE 4: HAPPY FEET 5: TENACIOUS D 6: SPIRIT TRAP 7: THE RETURN 8: INANG YAYA 9: RESERVED 10: WAG KANG LILONGON 11: REYNA 12: FRAGILE SM CITY FAIRVIEW 935-0749 1: THE NATIVITY 2: REYNA 3: WAG KANG LILONGON 4: RESERVED 5: SHAOLIN VS. EVIL DEAD 6: TENACIOUS D 7: CASINO ROYALE 8: HAPPY FEET 9: WAG KANG LILONGON 10: SPIRIT TRAP 11: FRAGILE 12: BARCELONA SM CITY STA. MESA 716-1416 1: CASINO ROYALE 2: HAPPY FEET 3: SPIRIT TRAP 4: AN INCONVENIENT TRUTH 5: RESERVED 6: SHAOLIN VS. EVIL DEAD 7: THE NATIVITY 8: WAG KANG LILONGON 9: REYNA 10: TENACIOUS D 11: HAPPY FEET 12: AN INCONVENIENT TRUTH 13: TENACIOUS D 14: BARCELONA 15: THE NATIVITY 16: WAG KANG LILONGON 17: CASINO ROYALE 18: WAG KANG LILONGON	SM CITY SOUTHMALL 806-6888 1: THE NATIVITY 2: TENACIOUS D 3: RESERVED 4: SPIRIT TRAP 5: RESERVED 6: RESERVED 7: HAPPY FEET 8: WAG KANG LILONGON 9: REYNA SM CITY BICUTAN 776-3055 1: A GOOD YEAR 2: SHAOLIN VS. EVIL DEAD 3: REYNA 4: THE NATIVITY SM CITY MANILA 523-9240 1: TENACIOUS D 2: SPIRIT TRAP 3: THE NATIVITY 4: FRAGILE 5: HAPPY FEET 6: CASINO ROYALE 7: SHAOLIN VS. EVIL DEAD 8: BARCELONA 9: INANG YAYA 10: THE RETURN 11: REYNA 12: WAG KANG LILONGON SM CITY DASMARINAS (046) 832-2201-04 1: HAPPY FEET 2: THE RETURN 3: SANTA CLAUSE 3 4: FEAST SM VALENZUELA 293-3917 1: SANTA CLAUSE 3 2: THE RETURN 3: CAKE 4: FLAGS OF OUR FATHERS SM CITY SUCAT 829-4975 1: THE NATIVITY 2: SHAOLIN VS. EVIL DEAD 3: HAPPY FEET 4: REYNA

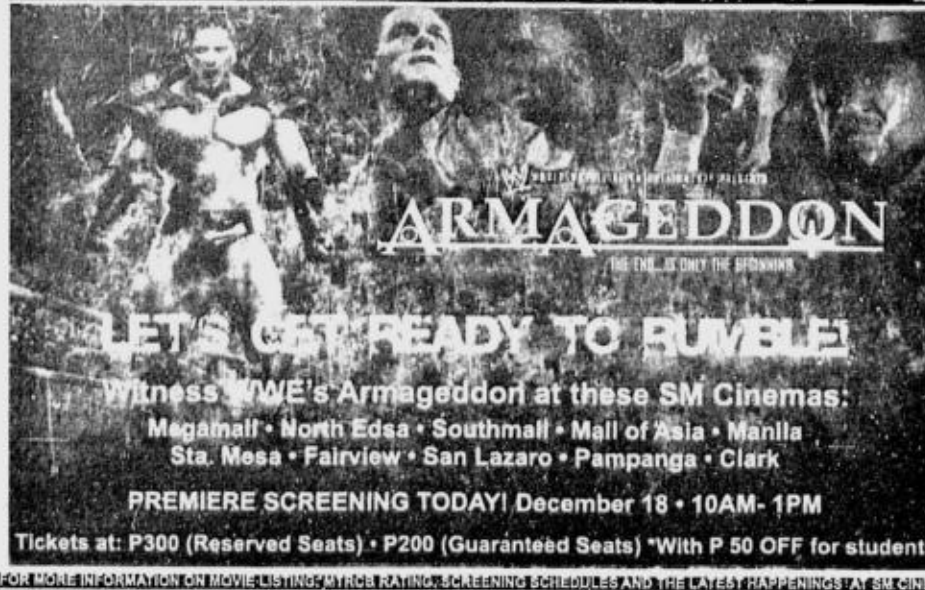


SM CITY BACOD (046) 417-3868 1: REYNA 2: INANG YAYA 3: HAPPY FEET 4: SHAOLIN VS. EVIL DEAD 5: CASINO ROYALE 6: WAG KANG LILONGON 7: TENACIOUS D 8: DECK THE HALLS SM CITY CLARK (045) 625-5844-45 1: HAPPY FEET 2: THE MARINE 3: FRAGILE 4: SCHOOL FOR SCOUNDRELS 5: WAG KANG LILONGON 6: INANG YAYA SM CITY MARILAO (044) 933-2013-17 1: HAPPY FEET 2: ANG PAMANA 3: THE RETURN 4: DECK THE HALLS	LUZON SM CITY BATANGAS 885-6401-04 1: ZU WARRIORS 2: HAPPY FEET 3: REYNA 4: SCHOOL FOR SCOUNDRELS SM CITY PAMPANGA (045) 903-7661-05 1: CASINO ROYALE 2: THE RETURN 3: THE MARINE 4: BARCELONA 5: MEE-SHEE 6: INANG YAYA SM CITY LIPA (043) 756-7925 1: STEP UP 2: HAPPY FEET 3: THE RETURN 4: BARNYARD	SM CITY LUCENA (042) 7108977-80 1: THE MARINE 2: REYNA 3: BOA 4: WAG KANG LILONGON SM CITY BAGUIO (074) 6197838-39 1: SANTA CLAUSE 3 2: BOA 3: HAPPY FEET 4: ANG PAMANA SM SUPERCENTRIN MOLINO (046) 474-3100 1: DECK THE HALLS 2: MEE-SHEE 3: ZU WARRIORS 4: A GOOD YEAR SM CITY STA. ROSA (049) 8341265-06 1: DECK THE HALLS 2: SANTA CLAUSE 3 3: HAPPY FEET 4: FLAGS OF OUR FATHERS
--	--	---

SM CITY CEBU (032) 231-3876 1: RESERVED 2: RESERVED 3: CASINO ROYALE 4: DECK THE HALLS 5: THE MARINE 6: FRAGILE 7: HAPPY FEET 8: BOA	VISAYAS SM CITY ILOILO (033) 3209422 1: MEE-SHEE 2: RESERVED 3: HAPPY FEET 4: ZU WARRIORS 5: THE NATIVITY 6: CASINO ROYALE 7: RESERVED 8: FRAGILE	SM CITY DAVAO (082) 2976998 1: MEE-SHEE 2: FRAGILE 3: BARCELONA 4: THE NATIVITY 5: FEAST 6: HAPPY FEET SM CITY CAGAYAN (088) 859-2884 1: HAPPY FEET 2: CASINO ROYALE 3: FRAGILE 4: BOA
--	--	---

SCHEDULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

SPORTSTIME EXCLUSIVE



FOR MORE INFORMATION ON MOVIE LISTINGS, RATING, SCREENING SCHEDULES AND THE LATEST HAPPENINGS AT SM CINEMA

'Pinay Oprah'

From page H3

through me."

The documentary, "Mabuhay With Aloha—the Hawaiian Filipino Experience 1906-2006," celebrates the Hawaii-Filipino Centennial Year. The special was aired last June 28 and 29 on KHON Channel 2 in Honolulu.

Mounted by her production outfit, Emme Tomimbang Multi-Media Enterprises Inc. or EMME Inc., the documentary traces the journey of the sakadas (plantation laborers) from the Philippines to Hawaii, as well as the evolution of Filipinos in business, politics, labor and entertainment. The docu also had a two-night airing on Fox network and was even played in the Louis Vuitton Film Festival. It may be screened in the Philippines next year.

Pamana award

Last Dec. 7, Emme was honored in Malacañang with the Pamana ng Pilipino Award, which is "conferred on Filipinos overseas who, in exemplifying the talent and industry of the Filipino, have brought the country honor and distinction in the pursuit of their work and profession." One of the 30 individuals and 18 organizations given the distinction worldwide, she was cited specifically for her successful and inspiring work in media and journalism.

What drove you to put up your own production company?

I was getting really burnt out doing the news. I was doing the morning news, features every day and I was ready to explode. I started television in 1975, and I left 1987. But what prompted me to go on my own was my dad's death. It made me realize that life is too short. I said, I wanted to do my own shows. I was

PINAY/H3

No funds for celebs

From page H1

stars' honoraria.

This used to be shouldered by the Metro Manila Development Authority, which produces the festival. City tourism officer Benedicto Alhambra pointed out that the Baguio leg was now being produced by Alonso's Baguio Film Association (BFA).

City auditors and accountants cautioned that there was no longer any legal justification for local officials to pay the stars, Yangot said, because the parade is a private enterprise.

Alhambra added that Alonso decided to advance the payments, banking on a resolution that may grant BFA a windfall from this year's festival box office. Vincent Cabreza, Inquirer Northern Luzon

tired of doing television news that last a minute and a half. I was already doing specials then but for the TV station. I learned that I could do it on my own. Now I subcontract myself to the station. I'm not really employed by them.

Why not produce a regular show?

I used to have a weekly show called "Emme and Friends" and I had celebrities like Kenny Loggins, David Copperfield, Paul Newman and Stevie Wonder. Everyone who went to Hawaii to do a concert ended up on my show.

Then I had a weekly health show. But I found that because I had a business, I don't like doing regular shows that take too much of my life. So I did TV specials. In and around my television show, I run my business. I do airline videos, corporate videos and projects for nonprofit groups.

How does it feel to be called the Oprah Winfrey of Hawaii?

They called me Barbara Walters years ago when she was a TV icon. Now it's Oprah. I think the reason is not only because Oprah and I have the same interests but also because like me, she is a woman of color. What's interesting is that she just bought a house down the street from my place. Someday, it's gonna

THE LEGEND IS BACK!!! ANG TANGING HERO NG BAYAN

VIC SOTTO **KRISTINE HERMOSA**
BING LOZADA OYO SOTTO GEMMA GUTORGI JOSE MANALO
ALZA SEBASTIAN ANTONIO AGUIRRE AND ALBERT

Enteng Kabisote 3
OKAY KA FAIRY KO
THE LEGEND GOES ON AND ON AND ON
AGENCY: TONY YREYES, INC.

IN THEATRES CHRISTMAS DAY 2006
OFFICIAL ENTRY TO THE METRO MANILA FILM FESTIVAL 2006

PREMIERE NIGHT AT SM MEGAMALL CINEMA 10
DECEMBER 21, 2006 7:30 PM

VISIT www.enteng3.multiply.com

MAG-INGAT...MAKIRAMDAM...MATAKOT

RICA PERALEJO ANGELICA PANGANIBAN
AND **GRETCHEN BARRETTO**
TANYA GARCIA BIANCA KING AND ANA CAPRI

MATAKOT KA SA KARMA
DIRECTED BY JOSE JAVIER REYES
OFFICIAL ENTRY TO THE METRO MANILA FILM FESTIVAL 2006

IN THEATRES DECEMBER 25, 2006
RED CARPET PREMIERE NIGHT AT SM MEGAMALL CINEMA 3 DECEMBER 20, 2006 7:30 PM
CATCH THE STARS OF "MATAKOT KA SA KARMA" MALL SHOW ON DECEMBER 22 AT SM MANILA 4PM

PINAY/H6

AT THE CINEMAS

Reserve your tickets by texting SURESEATS G03 or SURESEATS G4 to 2333 (Globe) or 211 (Smart) or log on to www.sureseats.com for web reservations.
Movie schedules may change without prior notice. For verification, please call 729 7777

G1 GLORIETTA 1	SHAOLIN VS. EVIL DEAD 2	2 HAPPY FEET	3 SPIRIT TRAP	4 REYNA
G4 GLORIETTA 4	1 LITTLE MISS SUNSHINE	2 TENACIOUS D	3 CASINO ROYALE	4 THE NATIVITY
GB1 GREENBELT 1	1 TENACIOUS D	2 HAPPY FEET		
GB3 GREENBELT 3	1 A GOOD YEAR	2 HAPPY FEET		
ATC ALABANG TOWN CENTER	1 THE NATIVITY	2 TENACIOUS D	3 LITTLE MISS SUNSHINE	4 THE NATIVITY
ACC AYALA CENTER CEBU	1 DECK THE HALLS	2 MEE-SHEE	3 FRAGILE	4 HAPPY FEET
M2 MARKET! MARKET!	1 HAPPY FEET	2 A GOOD YEAR		
	3 THE NATIVITY	4 SPIRIT TRAP	5 TENACIOUS D	

At the Activity Center

Customer Service text hotline: 0917 6095900
Customer Service Numbers: Glorietta - 752 7272; from 10am to 9pm
Greenbelt - 757 4853; from 11am to 9pm

GLORIETTA Paskong K.O. December 14 to 15, 2006	ALABANG TOWN CENTER Anson Exhibit December 11 to 22, 2006
AYALA CENTER CEBU Christmas Carols w/ One World String Orchestra December 16, 2006	MARKET! MARKET! Christmas Goodies Bazaar December 11 to 15, 2006

GREENBELT
Holiday Harmonies with the Philippine Madrigal Singers
December 2, 9 & 23, 2006

Onstage
Repertory Philippines presents SOUND OF MUSIC
at REP's Globe Theater - November 11 to December 17, 2006
For inquiries, pls. call 887-0710

Ayala MUSEUM
Watch RILES: LIFE ON THE TRACKS.
A documentary by acclaimed Filipino director Ditsi Carolino
December 15, 2006 / 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Stargazing at the Glorietta 4 PARK

featuring the stars of
ENTENG KABISOTE 3
&
MATAKOT KA SA KARMA

December 17, 2006 Sunday
5:00 PM - Glorietta 4 Park

Reserved seats for the first 200 moviegoers who will present any movie tickets purchased in any Ayala Malls Cinemas on Dec. 17, 2006.

The movies Enteng Kabisote 3 & Matakot Ka Sa Karma opens Dec. 20 at Ayala Malls Cinemas

Holiday Harmonies

WITH THE PHILIPPINE MADRIGAL SINGERS

SATURDAYS OF DECEMBER 7-8 PM

DECEMBER 2 (GREENBELT 3 PARK)
DECEMBER 9 (GREENBELT 3 PARK)
DECEMBER 16 (GREENBELT 3 2ND FLOOR FOUNTAIN AREA)
DECEMBER 23 (GREENBELT 3 PARK)

Hawaii has 'Pinay Oprah'

From page H5

come. We will meet... down the street, I can offer her cookies and say, "Welcome to the neighborhood—I'm the Oprah of Hawaii."

Who are the most interesting celebrities you have interviewed?

Over the years, there've been so many. There's Robert Kennedy Jr. I also went to London to cover the wedding of Princes Diana and Prince Charles. And I worked with Peter Jennings. Kevin Costner, I thought, was fascinating.

A lot of people, when they go to Hawaii, they put their hair down. Even Cameron Diaz and Justin Timberlake—they bought a house here and it's not a rich area. The area called Kailua where Oprah bought a property has one of the best beaches. That's why I hate her for bringing people in our neighborhood and raising our property taxes.

What was most challenging in your career in broadcasting?

I started as a personality on Filipino radio. Then I moved to television. I was a weather girl. And then I guess they saw some potential. What challenged me when I was a news journalist was learning the art of interviewing, turning it around in less than three hours, editing and looking good presenting it on the six o'clock news.

What was the best compliment you received from a fellow broadcaster?

A former cameraman from New York, now a reporter, told someone I know: "You know, I learned so much when I was with Emme. As a cameraman, I watched her and she could get anything [from her interviewees]. They wouldn't even know they were talking before a camera. By the time we stopped filming, they have forgotten that I was still there."

So as a reporter, he was trying to do that but he can't. He said, "They always know I'm there. I don't know how Emme does it."

Would you consider doing a show here?

I'd like to. I would like to initiate a program that would give Filipinos a window to what everyone else is doing. It's a vision. I am already in conversation with some of the networks. It's a challenge for me because [the Philippines] is 9,000 miles away and it's a 10-hour flight. My whole career has been television so why not take it globally?



EMME guests "American Idol" finalist Jasmine Trias in her show.

EASTWOOD CINEMAS Eastwood City Walk • Eastwood City Rodriguez Ave. (C-3) Quezon City For inquiries, call: 687-6963 GUARANTEED SEATS MOVIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE	TENACIOUS D 1:40, 4:00, 6:20, 8:40, 11:00
	HAPPY FEET 1:05, 3:35, 6:05, 8:35, 11:00 G
	CASINO ROYALE 1:10, 4:20, 7:30, 10:40 PG 13
	A GOOD YEAR 2:55, 5:40, 8:25, 11:00 PG 13

CASINO ROYALE 007 PG13 1:05, 4:00, 6:55	HAPPY FEET G 1:10, 3:30, 5:50	A GOOD YEAR PG13 2:30, 5:00, 7:30
TENACIOUS D IN: THE PICK OF DESTINY 1:50, 4:00, 6:10	SPIRIT TRAP R13 1:45, 3:55 BORAT R18 6:00, 8:00	THE NATIVITY STORY PG13 1:20, 3:30, 5:40, 7:50

IN THEATERS DECEMBER 25

LITO LAPID
as Leon Guerrero

MARK LAPID **MAYNARD LAPID**
as Julio Valiente as Zigomar

TATLONG BARAHA

PHOENIX BARANDA GILLES SEVILLA JACKELINE BEARWIN MEDY MONSOUR DEL ROSARIO

OFFICIAL ENTRY TO THE METRO MANILA FILM FESTIVAL 2006

PRESENT

Piling-piling Pinaka-magaling na Pelikulang Pilipino

"Ang Festival na ito ay handog sa Manggagawa ng Pelikulang Pilipino"

DEC. 25 '06 - JAN. 5 '07

JOIN "CASH SA PELIKULA" PROMO AND WIN CASH PRIZES!

SEE POSTERS FOR DETAILS

0% INTEREST

UP TO 24 MONTHS ON SELECTED PURCHASES WITH MAJOR CREDIT CARDS

EASY MONTHLY

INSTALLMENT RATES

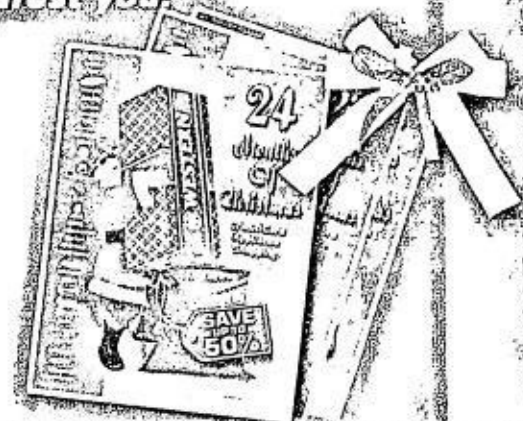
X'MAS FREEBIES

ON SELECTED PURCHASES

EXTENDED WARRANTY

OF UP TO FIVE (5) YEARS

Get your copy of our Appliance Catalogue at any Western branch nearest you.



24 Months of Christmas



- citibank
- BPI Express Credit
- Equitable
- METROBANK
- SECURITY BANK
- Diners Club International
- HSBC
- BANKARD
- UNIONBANK
- BO
- AIC Credit Cards
- Standard Chartered

SONY
BRAVIA S2 Series: LCD TV
Superior Technological Performance

KLV-40S200A

FREE
SONY P20,000 HOME THEATER DISCOUNT VOUCHER
SONY P10,000 DVD/HD RECORDER DISCOUNT VOUCHER
SRP P189,990
P7,916.25
24 mos. 0%

SAMSUNG
FREE WATER PUMP & INSTALLATION!
RS-27KGRS (26.0 cu.ft.) / [736L]
Silver Nano Health System • Twin Cooling System • Water & Ice Dispenser • Beverage Station
SRP P 149,900
P8,327.78
18 mos. 0%
FREE TURBO BROILER
(FOR CASH or STRAIGHT CHARGE ONLY)

SHARP AQUOS LCD TV

ADD P3999 and get a HOME THEATER SYSTEM FREE for CASH and 12 mos. 0% only 29V-F1955 17" (43cm) LCD SRP P11,666.50 / mo.	FREE for CASH and 12 mos. 0% only 21V-FR3505 15" (38cm) LCD SRP P8,333.17 / mo.
---	---

Pioneer
sound.vision.soul

HTZ656DVD
5 speaker system with "4 tallboy" speakers, center speaker and subwoofer • With HDMI output

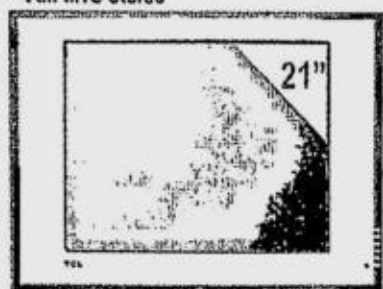
**SRP P29,990
P2,499.17
12 mos. 0%**

For Your Christmas Shopping, We Have 14 Branches to Serve You

- | | | | | | |
|---|--|--|---|--|--|
| <p>12 Missouri St.,
Northeast Greenhills,
San Juan
Tel: 726-6115
726-7855
727-2969
Fax: 727-4187</p> | <p>1028 Arnala Ave.,
(formerly Pasy Road) corner
Ponce Street, Makati City
Tel: 889-8746 to 48
817-9506
Fax: 889-8749</p> | <p>Ground Floor, Ever Gotesco,
Commonwealth Ave., Batasan Hills,
Quezon City
Tel: 931-5650 / 931-5996
Fax: 931-5669</p> | <p>16 General Araneta Avenue,
Farmers Market, Cubao,
Quezon City
Tel: 911-0771 / 439-0060
Fax: 911-2585</p> | <p>Upper Ground Floor, New Farmers
Plaza, Araneta Center, Cubao,
Quezon City
Tel: 911-1915 / 995-8714
Fax: 911-1917</p> | <p>3rd Floor, Fillinvest Corporate City,
Alabang, Muntinlupa City
Tel: 842-1327 / 850-3746
Fax: 850-3758</p> |
| <p>Upper Ground Floor, Ever Gotesco,
Grand Central Complex,
Rizal Ave. Ext., Kalookan City
Tel: 364-5341 / 364-5383 / 363-3623
Fax: 366-4502</p> | <p>747 Rizal Avenue Extension,
Kalookan City
Tel: 361-6657 / 361-3055 /
361-2766
Fax: 361-2751</p> | <p>8ldg. A, Lower Ground Flr.,
SM Megamall, Mandaluyong City
Tel: 634-1731 / 634-6532 /
635-2071
Fax: 638-4210</p> | <p>178 P. Tuason Boulevard corner
8th Avenue, Cubao, Quezon City
Tel: 911-5651 / 912-7829 /
913-2577
Fax: 911-5553</p> | <p>1421-1425 C.M. Recto Ave.,
Sta. Cruz, Manila
Tel: 711-5671 to 74 /
712-6295 to 98
Fax: 711-5675</p> | <p>Phase 3, Basement Level, Sta. Lucia East
Grand Mall, Marcos Highway, Calatagan, Rizal
Tel: 645-1582 / 646-1415 /
645-1961 / 645-1759
Fax: 645-8396</p> |
| <p>2nd Floor, Target Mall, Ballibago,
Sta. Rosa City, Laguna
Tel: (49) 534-3028
Fax: (02) 886-1514</p> | <p>14 Morato St., San Francisco Del Monte
Quezon City
Tel: 373-4501 to 05 / 371-0430 /
371-0441
Fax: 414-9075 / 412-8711</p> | | | | |

TCL 21181

- 21" Tru Flat Screen
- Digital Noise Reduction
- Message Reminder
- Digital Curtain Power On
- Biological Clock
- Full MTS Stereo



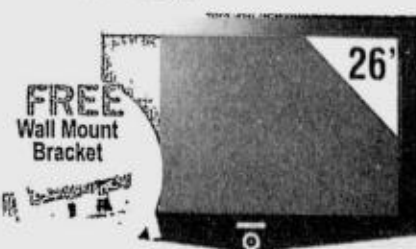
FREE
TV RACK
& GIFT PACK

SRP: P9,695
P807.92
12 mos. 0%

TCL

JVC

LA-26R51
26" LCD TV



FREE
Wall Mount
Bracket

BEFORE: P84,900
NOW: P54,900

FREE (Cash / Straight Charge / 12mos. 0% only)
or **ADD-ONS** (Cash Only)
Add P5,000 for IT02H
or Add P15,000 for IT102F
or Add P25,000 for IT102F
SAVE: P30,000
P4,575.00 12 mos. 0%
P2,287.50 24 mos. 0%

SAVINGS TO THE MAX
LIMITED STOCKS ONLY

Available at Megamall, Festival Mall and Sta. Lucia Branches

24 X'MAS FREEBIES TO GO WITH MANY DEALS

Many Freebies for a Merrier Christmas!

20" LCD TV



w/ selected SAMSUNG LCD TVs

29" FLAT CTV



w/ selected SAMSUNG or SHARP LCD TVs

21" FLAT CTV



w/ selected SAMSUNG or SHARP LCD TVs

iPod VIDEO



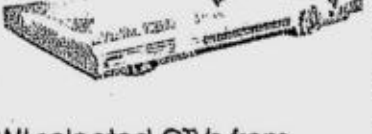
w/ selected SHARP LCD TVs

HOME THEATER SYSTEM



w/ a SANSUI 32" or 37" LCD TV or PIONEER Plasma TV

DVD PLAYER



w/ selected CTVs from PANASONIC or SHARP Big Size LCD TVs

MP3 PLAYER 256MB



w/ selected PIONEER Home Theater & DVD Component Systems

MP3 PLAYER



w/ selected SHARP Flat CTVs

CAMERA TRIPOD



w/ selected Digital Video Cameras from JVC, SONY, CANON and PANASONIC

MIC & KARAOKE VCDs



w/ selected JVC Component Systems

SONY GIFT VOUCHERS



w/ selected SONY products

TV RACK



On a wide selection of CTVs

DEEP FRYER



w/ a FEDDERS or KOPPEL Window-Type Aircon

RICE COOKER



With selected purchases from SHARP, SANYO, GARANT & IMARFLEX

MICROWAVE OVEN



With a SANYO Washing Machine

TURBO BROILER



w/ selected SAMSUNG No-Frost Refs

FLAT IRON



With selected Washing Machines from PANASONIC, SHARP & SAMSUNG

INSECT ZAPPER



With selected GE refs

GROUND FAN



With selected purchases from SHARP, SANYO & SAMSUNG

DESK FAN



With selected purchases from SAMSUNG, KOLIN, SANYO & PANASONIC

KETTLE



w/ CONDURA or KELVINATOR Ref or SHARP Microwave oven

VACUUM CLEANER



With a FEDDERS Split-Type Aircon

SINGLE BURNER GAS STOVE



With PANASONIC Ref or Freezer

DUAL BURNER GAS STOVE



w/ selected SAMSUNG No-Frost Refs

AND MANY MANY MORE...

For Institutional Sales, please contact: Mr. Ruel Iponla

Tel. No. 3734501 local 146 Fax No. 414-9526 Email: sales@western.com.ph

JVC
GZ-MG30U
Hard Disk Camcorder
30Gb Hard Disk Drive
25x Optical Zoom
FREE Carrying Case & Lens Cap
NOW: P44,990
SAVE: P8,991
P2,499.45
18 mos. 0%

Panasonic
PV-GS65
3CCD Digital Video Camera
BEFORE: P34,999
NOW: P30,499
SAVE: P4,500
P2,541.59
12 mos. 0%

Panasonic
DMC-FX9
6.0 Megapixel Digital Still Camera
BEFORE: P26,999
NOW: P19,379
SAVE: P7,620
P1,614.92
12 mos. 0%

SONY
DSC-T9
CyberShot Digital Camera
BEFORE: P32,999
NOW: P27,999
SAVE: P5,000
P2,333.25
12 mos. 0%

SONY
DSC-T5
CyberShot Digital Camera
BEFORE: P24,999
NOW: P21,999
SAVE: P3,000
P1,833.25
12 mos. 0%

Canon
ZR200
20x Optical Zoom/ 400x Digital Zoom
MiniDV Camcorder
BEFORE: P32,500
NOW: P23,950
SAVE: P8,550
P1,330.55
18 mos. 0%

Canon
OPTURA30
12x Optical Zoom/ 240x Digital Zoom
MiniDV Camcorder
BEFORE: P62,000
NOW: P39,000
SAVE: P23,000
P2,166.67
18 mos. 0%

BUY 5 GET 1 ITEM FREE



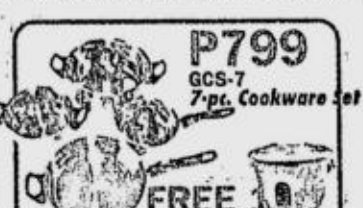
P699
GRJ-858
Jar Rice Cooker
(1.5 Liter)

FREE 1 GWK-300 Whistling Kettle



P1,999
GWD300
Table-Top Type
Water Dispenser

FREE 1 GRC-806 Rice Cooker



P799
GCS-7
7-pc. Cookware Set

FREE 1 GRC-806 Rice Cooker



P849
GRJ-885
Jar Rice Cooker
(1.8 Liter)

FREE 1 GWK-300 Whistling Kettle

BUY 10 GET 1 FREE
FREE SAME MODEL



P299 P329 P399

BUY 5 GET 1 FREE
FREE SAME MODEL



P599 P699

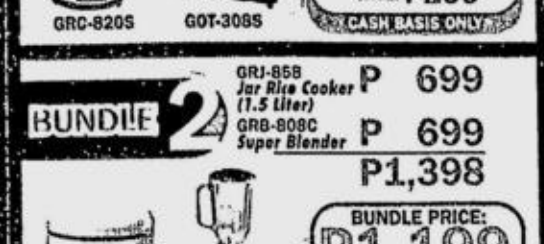
SALE SALE SALE SALE



Before: P499 Now: P299
Before: P599 Now: P499
Before: P799 Now: P599
Before: P899 Now: P699
Before: P949 Now: P949
FREE Regulator
P599
P650



BUNDLE 1
P1,298
BUNDLE PRICE: **P999**
SAVE: **P299**
CASH BASIS ONLY



BUNDLE 2
P1,398
BUNDLE PRICE: **P1,199**
SAVE: **P199**
CASH BASIS ONLY



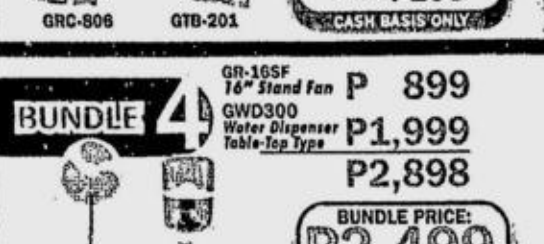
P799 P599



P899 P499



BUNDLE 3
P2,298
BUNDLE PRICE: **P1,999**
SAVE: **P299**
CASH BASIS ONLY



BUNDLE 4
P2,898
BUNDLE PRICE: **P2,499**
SAVE: **P399**
CASH BASIS ONLY



P899 P1,999

Garant GEE IDEAS

Omerex

Teppanyaki HEALTH GRILL

BUY 5 GET 1 FREE

GR-808 Rice Cooker (0.8 Liter)

P1,799

CASH or STRAIGHT CHARGE ONLY

BUY 10 GET 1 FREE

Electric Juicer

P450

CASH or STRAIGHT CHARGE ONLY

Juicer



K510i
• Tri-band: GSM 900/1800/1900
• 1.3 Megapixel Camera with Digital Zoom
• 256K colour TFT / 28mm x 35mm Display
• GPRS, Bluetooth, Infrared, USB Support
• 1000 Entry Phonebook, Photo Call
• 28MB Phone Memory
SRP: P11,400
P950.00
12 mos. 0%
One Year Warranty on Parts & Services



P990i
• Tri-band: GSM 900/1800/1900
• 2.0 Megapixel Camera with Auto Focus
• 256K colour TFT / 28mm x 35mm Display
• GPRS, Bluetooth, Wi-Fi 802.11b, USB v2.0
• Video Call / 12 Fields Phonebook
• Memory Stick Pro Duo / 60MB Phone Memory
SRP: P43,750
P3,645.84
12 mos. 0%
One Year Warranty on Parts & Services



N73
• 3G / EDGE Phone
• 2.0 Megapixel Camera (Carl Zeiss Optics)
• 256K colour TFT / 28mm x 35mm Display
• GPRS, Bluetooth, Infrared, USB v2.0
• Video Call / 12 Fields Phonebook
• Memory Stick Pro Duo / 42MB Phone Memory
SRP: P27,600
P2,300.00
12 mos. 0%
One Year Warranty on Parts & Services



KRZR K1
• 3G / EDGE Phone
• 2.0 Megapixel Camera
• 256K colour TFT / 28mm x 35mm display
• GPRS, Bluetooth, USB
• PhotoBook: 1000 x 1200 / Photo Call
• MicroSD Card Slot / 20MB internal memory
SRP: P23,900
P1,991.67
12 mos. 0%
One Year Warranty on Parts & Services



FREE CORDLESS KETTLE
CS0655A-PR
6.5 cu ft. [183.95L]
• Semi-automatic
• 1 Door
• Premium Model
SRP: P9,895
P824.59
12 mos. 0%



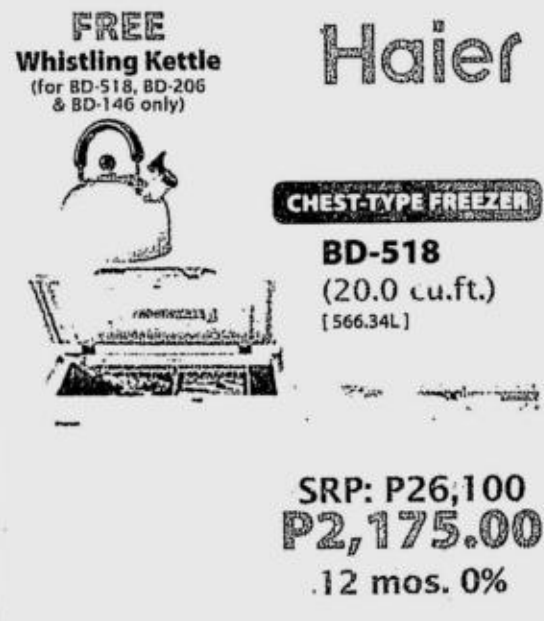
FREE Garant Flat Iron
FREE Laundry Package
[until supply last]
SINGLE TUB
Avocado Shake / Powder Blue
NA-S526B
• 5.2kg Dry Weight Capacity
• Rust Proof Body
• Dolphin Drive Pulsator
SRP: P3,299
P549.84
6 mos. 0%



FREE TANK INSECT ZAPPER
GTV120PDSR5G
12 cu ft. [331.44L]
• Silver Gray
SRP: P28,495
P2,374.59
12 mos. 0%



FREE Garant Flat Iron
FREE Laundry Package
[until supply last]
TWIN TUB
White / Avocado Shake
NA-W43R6
• 4.3kg Dry Weight Capacity
• Big Size Pulsator
• Soakmatic Function
SRP: P6,199
P516.59
12 mos. 0%



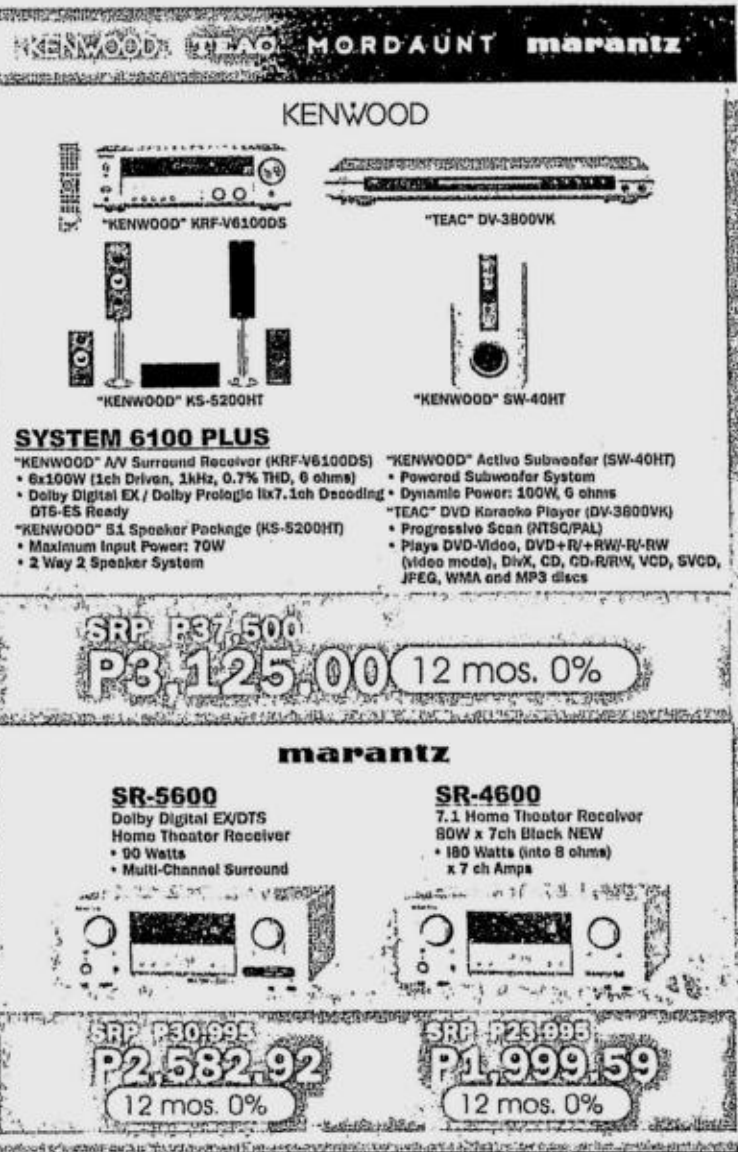
FREE Whistling Kettle
(for BD-518, BD-206 & BD-146 only)
CHEST-TYPE FREEZER
BD-518
(20.0 cu.ft.)
[566.34L]
SRP: P26,100
P2,175.00
12 mos. 0%



WASHING MACHINE
FREE Sanyo Microwave
(EW1053) [FOR CASH PURCHASES ONLY]
ASW-F101AT
• 7.0 kg Full Auto
• JetWash Action-Tilted Fin
• Cyclone Dry
• LED Display
• Washing Power 150%
SRP: P14,995
P1,249.59
12 mos. 0%



MORDAUNT CARNIVAL 3
Surround Speaker
• Recommended Amplifier Power: 50W
• Impedance: 4-8 ohms
• Sensitivity: 88dB
• Frequency Response: 70Hz-20kHz
SRP: P6,200
P516.67
12 mos. 0%
MORDAUNT CARNIVAL 5
Center Speaker
• Recommended Amplifier Power: 50W
• Impedance: 4-8 ohms
• Sensitivity: 87dB
• Frequency Response: 80Hz-20kHz
• Drive Units: 2 x 3.5" Woven Composite Cone, 25mm Soft Dome
SRP: P4,300
P358.34
12 mos. 0%
MORDAUNT CARNIVAL 6
Floor Standing Speaker
• Recommended Amplifier Power: 120W
• Impedance: 4-8 ohms
• Sensitivity: 90dB
• Frequency Response: 50Hz-20kHz
• Drive Units: 2 x 6.5" Woven Composite Cone-with Shielded Motor Assembly
• 25mm Soft Dome
• Crossover: 3-Way 1st Order
• Magnetically Shielded
• Weight: 12kg. (26.5lbs.)
• Available Colors: Black & Dark Apple
SRP: P10,250
P854.17
12 mos. 0%
MORDAUNT CARNIVAL 9
Subwoofer Speaker
• Input Sensitivity: Line In: 240mV (for max output) Hi Level In: 1.0V (for max output)
• Output Power: 100W
• Drive Units: 10" Unshielded Long Throw Woofer
SRP: P10,250
P854.17
12 mos. 0%



KENWOOD SYSTEM 6100 PLUS
"KENWOOD" AV Surround Receiver (KRF-V6100DS)
• 6x100W (1ch Driven, 1kHz, 0.7% THD, 8 ohms)
• Dolby Digital EX / Dolby Prologic IIx7.1ch Decoding
• DTS-ES Ready
"KENWOOD" 5.1 Speaker Package (KS-S200HT)
• Maximum Input Power: 70W
• 2 Way 2 Speaker System
SRP: P37,500
P3,125.00
12 mos. 0%
KENWOOD SR-5600
Dolby Digital EX/DTS Home Theater Receiver
• 90 Watts
• Multi-Channel Surround
SRP: P30,995
P2,582.92
12 mos. 0%
KENWOOD SR-4600
7.1 Home Theater Receiver
• 80W x 7ch Black NEW
• 180 Watts (into 8 ohms) x 7 ch Amps
SRP: P23,995
P1,999.59
12 mos. 0%



TEAC PL-D3200
DVD Home Theater System
• Supports DVD-Video, DVD+R/-RW/-RW, DivX, VCD, SVCD, CD, CD-R/RW, JPEG, HDCD, WMA and MP3 Discs
FREE CD WALLET
OR ADD P1000 (CASH)
Get HMD-1022 "RCA" MP3 PLAYER
SRP: P15,300
P2,550.00
6 mos. 0%
TEAC SL-D900
CD Clock Radio with USB
• Plays MP3 file on USB device • Plays CD, CD-R/RW, MP3 discs • 10AM-10PM preset
• PLL synthesized tuner • Output power: 15W total • Digital clock, sleep timer, timer with snooze • LCD display • Audio input • USB • Headphone jack
• Colour-keyed remote control • Dimensions: 340 x 190 x 239mm, 5.2kg
SRP: P20,000
P1,750.00
6 mos. 0%

VIDEO CAMERAS ARE AVAILABLE AT WESTERN MEGAMALL, FESTIVAL MALL & STA. LUCIA BRANCHES

SAVINGS TO THE MAX LIMITED STOCKS ONLY

JUST ADD P999 TOGETHER JVC



GR-DF470
USB Streaming Function
F1.2 Super Bright Lens
[35.56cm]
AV-14FN15
(worth P5,990)
NOW: P28,990
SAVE: P4,991
P2,415.84
12 mos. 0%



GR-DF550
1.33 Megapixel CCD
F1.2 Super Bright Lens
[35.56cm]
AV-14FN15
(worth P5,990)
NOW: P32,990
SAVE: P4,991
P2,749.17
12 mos. 0%



GR-D350
FREE: BAG, TAPE, FIREWIRE
[35.56cm]
AV-14FN15
(worth P5,990)
NOW: P21,990
SAVE: P4,991
P1,832.50
12 mos. 0%



GR-D370
FREE: BAG, TAPE, FIREWIRE, & TRIPOD
[35.56cm]
AV-14FN15
(worth P5,990)
NOW: P27,990
SAVE: P4,991
P2,332.50
12 mos. 0%



GR-D395
FREE: BAG, TAPE, FIREWIRE, & TRIPOD
[35.56cm]
AV-14FN15
(worth P5,990)
NOW: P29,990
SAVE: P5,291
P2,499.17
12 mos. 0%



GR-D650
FREE: BAG, TAPE, FIREWIRE, & TRIPOD
[35.56cm]
AV-14FN15
(worth P5,990)
NOW: P35,990
SAVE: P5,291
P2,999.17
12 mos. 0%

SAMSUNG
CT-21K30
21" Flat TV
[51.18cm]
FREE
(Cash / Straight Charge)
Desk Fan (GR12DF) + TV Rack
JUST ADD P2,990 Cash & GET:
NOW: P7,995
P666.25
12 mos. 0%

SAMSUNG
CT-21T20
21" Flat TV
[51.18cm]
FREE
TV Rack
JUST ADD P2,990 Cash & GET:
NOW: P8,995
P1499.17
6 mos. 0%

SAMSUNG
CT-29M20
29" Flat TV
[73.66cm]
BEFORE: P29,995
NOW: P18,995
SAVE: P11,000
P6,331.67
3 mos. 0%

SAMSUNG
PS-42D5
42" Plasma TV
[106.68cm]
BEFORE: P164,900
NOW: P144,900
SAVE: P20,000
P12,075.00
12 mos. 0%
ADD-ONS
(Cash Only)
Add P5,000 for HTQ20
or Add P15,000 for HTQ25
P6,037.50
24 mos. 0%

JVC
AV-25VT34
25" Flat Screen HDTV w/ Subwoofer
[63.50cm]
FREE
TV RACK
AV-25VT34 P20,990
XV-N322SL P5,080
XA-MP2 P6,180
P32,250
NOW: P24,980
SAVE: P7,270
P2,081.67
12 mos. 0%

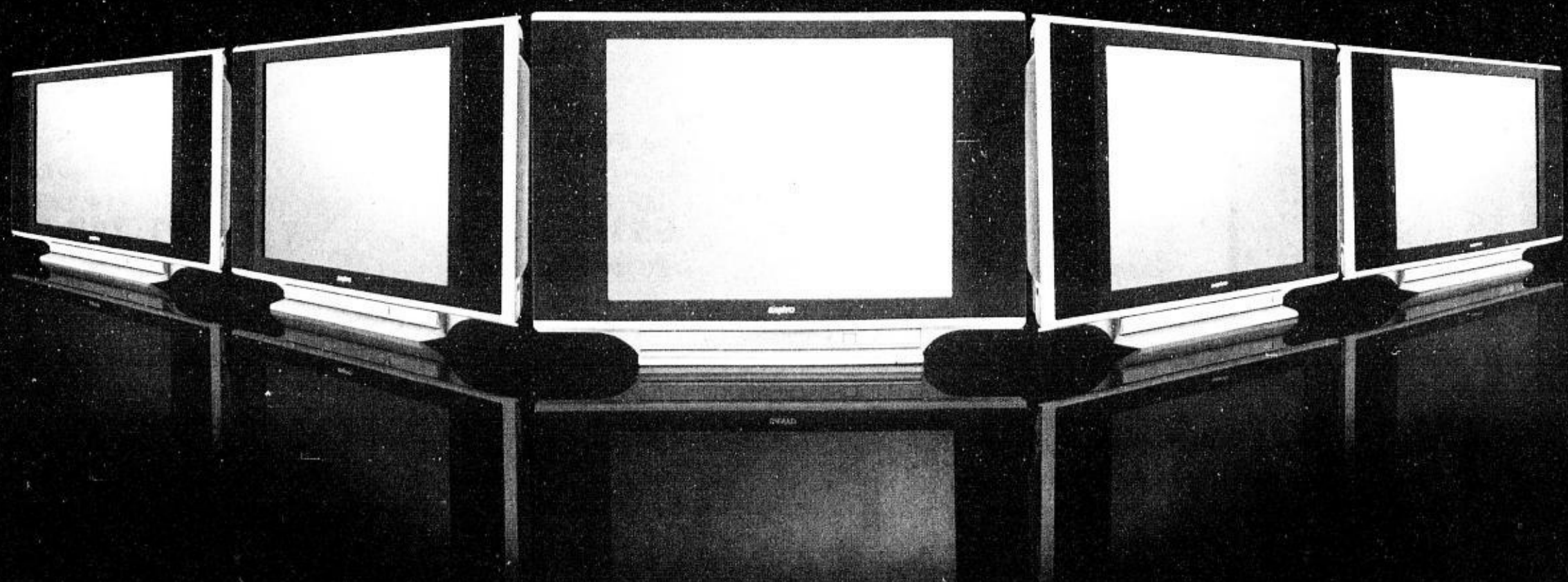
SHARP
25VFP350S
25" Flat TV w. MTS Stereo (Bk/wht.)
[63.50cm]
BEFORE: P19,998
NOW: P14,998
SAVE: P5,000
P1,249.84
12 mos. 0%

SHARP
29VFP350S
29" Flat TV w. MTS Stereo (Bk/wht.)
[73.66cm]
P23,798
DVSL800W P4,628
P28,426
NOW: P25,498
SAVE: P2,928
P2,124.84
12 mos. 0%

SAMSUNG
SP-56L7HR
56" DLP TV
[142.24cm]
BEFORE: P229,000
NOW: P179,900
SAVE: P49,100
P14,991.67
12 mos. 0%
ADD-ONS
(Cash Only)
Add P5,000 for HTQ20
or Add P15,000 for HTQ25
P7,495.84
24 mos. 0%

SANYO

Stunningly Flat. Magnificently Slim.



Discover a totally brand new viewing experience with the new Sanyo Vizon Flat Slim TV. Elegantly 20% slimmer and stylishly designed, Sanyo Vizon offers the latest digital features that deliver picture perfect images and awe-inspiring sounds you truly deserve.



VIZON

Flat Slim TV

- FEATURES:**
- Full AV Stereo
 - Bass Expander
 - Surround Sound System
 - Super Subwoofer Output
 - DVD Component Input
 - Transparent OSD



20% Slimmer

AVAILABLE AT ALL LEADING APPLIANCE STORES NATIONWIDE